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BEDFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

**COUNTY MEDICAL OFFICER
OF HEALTH**

FOR THE YEAR

1933

BEDFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

REPORT

upon the

**SANITARY CONDITION
AND PUBLIC HEALTH**

of the

ADMINISTRATIVE COUNTY OF BEDFORD

for the year

1933

by

CUTHBERT G. WELCH,

M.D. (Lond.), *Degree in State Medicine, D.P.H. (Oxon.)*

Medical Officer of Health.



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INDEX.

	PAGE
Prefatory Remarks	5
Accredited Milk Producers Scheme	57
Adoptive Acts, Bye-Laws and Regulations... ..	55
Adulteration of Food and Drugs	59-64
Ambulance Facilities	50
Area of County	11
Artificial Cream Act	58
Bacteriological Diagnoses	35
Births	12
Blind Welfare	52-53
Bromham House Colony	54
Bye-Laws and Regulations	55
Cancer	19-20
Causes of Death	15, 16, 17
Census (1931)	11
Clean Milk Competitions	56
Deaths	14
Dentistry	43, 30
Diseases (See " Infectious and other Diseases ")	
Dispensaries (Tuberculosis)	28
Disposal of Refuse	68
District Medical Officers of Health	10, 51
District Medical Officers (Out-Relief)	8-9
Drainage and Sewerage	66
Extra Nourishment	29, 37
Factories and Workshops, Inspection of	70
Food and Drugs, Adulteration	59-64
Food Inspection	58
Health Visiting	36
Hospitals for Infectious Diseases	47
Hospitals, Public Assistance	47
Hospitals, Voluntary	50
Houses, Sanitary Inspection of	70
Housing	69
Housing Act, 1930	70
Housing (Rural Workers) Act, 1926... ..	70
Infant Life Protection	41
Infant Welfare Centres	36
Infantile Mortality	17
Infectious and Other Diseases :—	
Acute Polio-Myelitis	25
Cancer	19, 20
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	25
Diarrhoea and Enteritis	26
Diphtheria	22
Encephalitis Lethargica... ..	25
Enteric Fever	23
Enteritis and Diarrhoea	26
Heart Disease	19
Influenza	22
Measles	24
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	24
Phthisis and other Tuberculous Diseases	26
Polio-Myelitis	25
Puerperal Fever	23
Puerperal Pyrexia	23
Scarlet Fever	23
Smallpox	22
Tuberculosis (Pulmonary)	26

INDEX—*continued.*

Infectious and Other Diseases— <i>continued.</i>						PAGE
Tuberculosis (Non-Pulmonary)	...	...	...	...	...	31
Venereal Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	33
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	...	25
Inoculations (Protective)	...	...	...	...	...	35
Institutional Medical Officers (Public Assistance)...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Institutions (Public Assistance)	...	...	...	...	...	47
Isolation Hospitals	...	...	...	...	...	47
Laboratory Facilities	...	...	...	...	...	35
Local Government Act, 1929	...	...	...	...	...	51
Maternal Mortality	...	...	...	...	...	18
Maternity and Child Welfare	...	...	...	...	...	35-41
Maternity Homes, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	37
Mental Deficiency Acts, 1913-27	...	...	...	...	...	54
Mental Treatment Act, 1930	...	...	...	...	...	54
Midwives Acts	...	...	...	...	...	38-41
Milk, Accredited Producers' Scheme	...	...	...	...	...	57
Milk, Better (Competition)	...	...	...	...	...	56
Milk (Condensed) Regulations	...	...	...	...	...	57
Milk (Condensed Skimmed)	...	...	...	...	...	58
Milk and Dairies	...	...	...	...	...	55-57
Milk (Dried) Regulations	...	...	...	...	...	57
Milk and Cream Regulations	...	...	...	...	...	57-58
Mogerhanger Park Sanatorium	...	...	...	...	...	30
Notifiable Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	21
Nursing Homes Registration Act, 1927	...	...	...	...	...	41
Nursing in the Home, Professional	...	...	...	...	...	38
Orthopaedic Treatment	...	...	...	...	...	44-45
Pollution of Rivers	...	...	...	...	...	66
Population	...	...	...	...	...	11
Preservatives, etc., in Food Regulations	...	...	...	...	...	57
Public Assistance Institutions	...	...	...	...	...	47
Public Assistance (Medical Domiciliary Treatment)	...	...	...	...	...	51
Public Health (Condensed Milk) Regulations	...	...	...	...	...	57
Public Health (Dried Milk) Regulations	...	...	...	...	...	57
Public Health Department (Staff)	...	...	...	...	...	7
Public Vaccinators	...	...	...	...	...	8-9
Rateable Value	...	...	...	...	...	11
Rats and Mice Destruction	...	...	...	...	...	68
Rainfall	...	...	...	...	...	66
Refuse Disposal	...	...	...	...	...	68
Rivers, Pollution of	...	...	...	...	...	66
Sanatorium (Mogerhanger Park)	...	...	...	...	...	30
Sanitary Inspectors, List of	...	...	...	...	...	10
Sanitary Inspections	...	...	...	...	...	70
Scavenging	...	...	...	...	...	68
School Medical Service	...	...	...	...	...	42
Schools, Sanitary Inspection of	...	...	...	...	...	70
Senile Mortality	...	...	...	...	...	18
Sewerage and Drainage	...	...	...	...	...	66
Shelters (Tuberculosis)	...	...	...	...	...	32
Staff of Public Health Department	...	...	...	...	...	7
Still-Births	...	...	...	...	...	13
Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	...	26-33
Tuberculosis Dispensaries	...	...	...	...	...	28
Tuberculosis Sanatorium	...	...	...	...	...	30
Vaccination Officers	...	...	...	...	...	9
Vaccination, Public	...	...	...	...	...	46
Venereal Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	33
Vital Statistics...	...	...	...	...	...	11
Voluntary Hospitals	...	...	...	...	...	50
Water Supplies	...	...	...	...	...	64

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE BEDFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

MY LORDS AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report upon the Public Health and Sanitary circumstances of the County of Bedford for the year 1933.

This Report has been drawn up on the lines indicated by the Minister of Health in his Circular as to the contents and arrangement of the Annual Reports of Medical Officers of Health.

The Birth rate for the County, in common with that for the whole Country, continues to fall, the rate for 1933 being the lowest ever recorded.

The Death rate for Bedfordshire continues to be satisfactorily low and is below that for the whole Country.

During the year, anxious consideration has been given to the important problem of providing an adequate water supply for the rural parts of the County in need of such provision. At the time of writing, investigations as to the best method whereby this can be achieved are approaching completion.

The Clerk of the Council has, as heretofore, been ever ready with his assistance and advice, and my thanks are due to the District Medical Officers of Health for their cordial co-operation at all times.

I should like to place on record my appreciation of the good work of the whole Staff of the Public Health Department during the past year.

I have the honour to be, my Lords and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

CUTHBERT G. WELCH,

County Medical Officer of Health.

SHIRE HALL, BEDFORD.

JUNE, 1934.

STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

County Medical Officer of Health :

CUTHBERT G. WELCH, M.D. (Lond.), Degree in State Medicine,
D.P.H. (Oxon).

Deputy County Medical Officer of Health and Senior Assistant School Medical Officer :

GEORGE R. PAINTON, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H. (Lond.).

Assistant Medical Officer (Maternity and Child Welfare) and Assistant School Medical Officer :

MARJORIE H. KING, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H. (Edin.).

Assistant Medical Officer (Tuberculosis) (Resident) and Assistant School Medical Officer :

WILLIAM EDWARD MASHITER, M.A., M.D., B.Chir. (Camb.),
M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

Assistant Tuberculosis Medical Officer :

GEORGE A. HAYMAN, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

School Dentists :

C. E. MAINWARING, L.D.S.

R. B. T. DINSDALE, L.D.S.

Health Visitors and Inspectors of Midwives :

*MRS. E. H. CURTIS, S.R.N.

*MISS C. D. SMITH, S.R.N.

*MISS M. K. COAD, S.R.N.

*MRS. I. RUSSELL, S.R.N.

*MISS E. VITTLES, S.R.N.

*MISS R. LAMB, S.R.N. (*Appointed 7/5/34, vice,
Miss G. John, resigned*).

*MISS M. JONES, S.R.N. (*Appointed 7/5/34, vice,
Miss E. M. Harrison, resigned*).

* Certified Midwife.

Dental Nurses :

MISS A. R. PECK, S.R.N.

MISS G. C. W. RIDDY, S.R.N.

Tuberculosis Nurse :

MISS E. A. TOPLEY, S.R.N.

STAFF (continued).

Clerical Staff :

Chief Clerk : E. H. L. STONEBANKS.

2nd Class Clerks : MISS D. A. HANDS and S. P. MARRIOTT.

Third Class Clerk : K. T. WHITE.

Shorthand Typist : MISS F. H. MARKHAM.

Junior Clerks : MISS J. K. TURNER and C. G. W. DENNING.

Dispensary Caretaker and V.D. Orderly :

A. CLAYSON (Luton)

Part-time V.D. Orderlies :

J. HYDE (Luton).

E. WOOTTON (Bedford)

Public Assistance Institutional Medical Officers and Public Vaccinators (Part time).

DR. W. E. C. PARRY ... Ampthill Public Assistance Institution
(Appointed 1/5/34, vice Dr. W. Brown, resigned).

DR. H. D. POLLARD ... Bedford Public Assistance Institution (St. Peter's Hospital)

DR. E. GORDON ... Kempston Children's Home
(Appointed 8/11/33, vice Dr. G. Butters, resigned).

DR. F. BOLSTER ... Biggleswade Public Assistance Institution, and Biggleswade Boys' and Girls' Homes

DR. J. M. O'MEARA ... Luton Public Assistance Institution, the Beech Hill Boys' Home and the Farley Hill Girls' Home.

DR. W. H. SQUARE ... Leighton Buzzard Public Assistance Institution.

District Medical Officers under the Poor Law Acts (Part-time), who are also part-time Public Vaccinators.

DR. W. H. MILLER ... Bromham District

DR. J. A. LEAHY ... Bedford District

DR. H. M. COOMBS ... Clapham ,,

DR. G. C. HUGHES ... Great Barford District

DR. E. J. CROSS ... Little Barford ,,

DR. A. H. HUDSON ... Eaton Socon ,,

DR. E. ROBINSON ... Dean ,,

DR. C. J. M. LAWRENCE ... Riseley and Sharnbrook Districts

DR. D. G. GREENFIELD ... Wymington District

STAFF (*continued*).*District Medical Officers (continued)*

DR. O. B. LEAN ...	...	Podington District
DR. W. BLAYNEY ...	...	Harrold ,,
DR. H. W. ROUND ...	...	Turvey ,,
DR. C. K. CROWTHER ...	...	Biggleswade ,,
DR. J. J. H. ANDERSON ...	...	Potton ,,
DR. T. CAMPBELL ...	...	Blunham and Sandy Districts
DR. W. J. JOHNSON ...	...	Shefford and Haynes Districts
DR. M. L. FARMER ...	...	Arlesey District
DR. W. E. C. PARRY ...	...	Amphill No. 1 District
DR. C. H. MACKLIN ...	...	Amphill No. 2 ,,
DR. A. E. STREET ...	...	Marston Moretaine and Cranfield Districts
DR. J. RICHARDSON ...	...	Aspley Guise District
DR. R. F. M. FAWCETT ...	...	Toddington and Hockliffe Districts
DR. H. J. SHANLEY ...	...	Shillington District
DR. J. ROLLINGS ...	...	Barton ,,
DR. H. A. A. PARGETER ...	...	Dunstable ,,
DR. J. E. S. SMITH ...	...	Caddington ,,

District Medical Officers under the Poor Law Acts (Part-time) only.

DR. J. A. CLARKE ...	...	Hyde District
DR. H. O'MEARA ...	...	Stopsley ,,
DR. J. ROBERTSON ...	...	Luton ,,
DR. J. GROGONO ...	...	Leighton Buzzard District

Public Vaccinators (Part-time) only.

DR. J. BIRCH ...	...	Luton District
DR. C. M. L. COWPER ...	...	Leighton Buzzard District

Vaccination Officers (part time).

<i>District</i>				<i>Name and address of Officer.</i>
AMPTHILL ...	...	...	...	MR. C. A. JEFFS, Amphill
BEDFORD ...	...	...	...	MR. A. F. BAILEY, Bedford
BIGGLESWADE ...	...	...	...	MR. C. RUTT, Biggleswade
DUNSTABLE ...	...	...	...	MR. T. H. TAYLOR, Dunstable
EATON SOCON ...	...	...	...	MR. H. PATEMAN, St. Neots
LEIGHTON BUZZARD ...	...	...	...	MR. H. G. GLEED, Leighton Buzzard
LUTON ...	...	...	...	MR. J. Q. CLAYTON, Luton
WOBURN ...	...	...	...	MR. E. H. L. STONEBANKS, Bedford
WYMINGTON ...	...	...	...	MR. T. W. GINDERS, Welling- borough

LIST OF MEDICAL OFFICERS OF HEALTH AND SANITARY INSPECTORS OF THE SEPARATE SANITARY DISTRICTS WITHIN THE COUNTY.

<u>URBAN DISTRICTS</u>		<u>MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH</u>		<u>SANITARY INSPECTOR</u>
Ampthill	...	W. K. Parbury, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H., D.M.R.E.	...	F. H. Williams, Cert. R.S.I., M.S.I.A.
Bedford	...	G. K. Bowes, M.A., M.D., M.R.C.P., D.P.H.	...	F. C. Haynes, Cert. R.S.I., M.S.I.A.
Biggleswade	...	H. W. Grattan, C.B.E., D.S.O., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.		J. R. Oxenham, M. Inst. M.C.E., M. Soc. E.
Dunstable	...	H. A. A. Pargeter, M.A., M.B., B.Ch., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.		W. F. Wilkins, M.I.M. & C.E. M.S.E., Cert. R.S.I.
Kempston	...	W. K. Parbury, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H., D.M.R.E.	...	P. W. Cooper, Cert. S.I.B., M.S.I.A.
Leighton Buzzard		J. Grogono, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.	...	B. H. Robjant, Cert. R.S.I.
Luton	...	W. Archibald, T.D., M.D., Ch.B., D.P.H.	...	A. J. Nichols, M.R.S.I. M.S.I.A.
Sandy	...	W. K. Parbury, M.R.C.S., L.C.R.P., D.P.H., D.M.R.E.	...	H. Vivian James, M.S.I.A.
<u>RURAL DISTRICTS</u>				
Ampthill	...	W. K. Parbury, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H., D.M.R.E.	...	L. Foster, M.I.M. & Cy.E., Cert. R.S.I.
Bedford	...	W. K. Parbury, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H., D.M.R.E.	...	F. Lindley, Cert. S.I.B., M.S.I.A.
Biggleswade	...	H. W. Grattan, C.B.E., D.S.O., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.		C. M. Robinson, F.S.I.A., Cert. R.S.I. (Meat & Food Inspection)
Luton	...	W. K. Parbury, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H., D.M.R.E.	...	H. Pickering, A.R.S.I., M.I.M & Cy.E.

BEDFORDSHIRE.

The area of the geographical and administrative County is 474 square miles, or 302,942 acres. Its greatest length from North to South is $36\frac{1}{2}$ miles and its greatest breadth $22\frac{1}{2}$ miles from East to West.

The County contains no County Boroughs but includes the three Non-County Boroughs of Bedford, Dunstable and Luton. There are in addition, five Urban Districts, and four Rural Districts—a reduction of two owing to the inclusion of the Rural District of Eaton Bray in the Luton Rural District on 1st April, 1933, in accordance with the South Bedfordshire Order, 1933, and the inclusion of the Eaton Socon Rural District in the Bedford Rural District on 1st April, 1934, in accordance with the North Bedfordshire Review Order, 1934.

At the 1st April, 1933, the rateable value was £1,255,249, The produce of a penny rate was for general County purposes, £4,839.

VITAL STATISTICS.

POPULATION.

The population of the County, according to the 1931 Census, was 220,525.

The aggregate resident population of the County, as estimated for the middle of 1933 by the Registrar General, was as follows :—

Urban Districts	...	...	147,939
Rural Districts	...	...	77,791
			<hr/>
The County	...	...	225,730
			<hr/>

The above figures relate to the Districts in question as constituted after the alterations in boundaries in accordance with the South Bedfordshire Order, 1933. The alterations took effect as from 1st April, 1933, and as the numbers of births and deaths for the *first three months* of the year are allocated to the areas as then constituted some adjustment has had to be made in respect of the *annual* rates of births, deaths, etc. in the areas affected. The following composite figures have, therefore, been furnished by the Registrar-General, and form the basis on which the Statistical Tables in this Report are compiled, viz :—

Population :— Urban Districts	...	147,130
Rural Districts	...	78,600
		<hr/>
The County	...	225,730
		<hr/>

BIRTHS.

The Birth-Rate for the Administrative County during the year 1933 was 13.2 per thousand ; that for England and Wales being 14.4 per thousand.

2,988 live births were registered in the Administrative County, 124 of which were illegitimate. The birth-rates per 1,000 of the Administrative County, the Urban and Rural Districts thereof, and of England and Wales for the last five years, are given below :—

LOCALITIES.	BIRTH RATE.				
	1929.	1930.	1931.	1932.	1933.
Urban Districts	13.9	14.2	13.7	13.4	12.3
Rural Districts	16.1	15.0	15.1	15.2	14.9
Administrative County	14.7	14.5	14.2	14.0	13.2
England & Wales	16.3	16.3	15.8	15.3	14.4

It will be observed that there has been a further decline in the Birth-rate for England and Wales during the past year, and that the Birth-rate in Bedfordshire has declined proportionately.

Natural increase of population is the excess of births over deaths and is usually expressed per thousand of the population. In Bedfordshire the natural increase was 1.6 per thousand in 1933 ; that for England and Wales being 2.1 per thousand.

The following Tables give the live birth statistics for the County Districts for the year 1933 :—

URBAN DISTRICTS	TOTAL BIRTHS.	LEGITIMATE.	ILLEGITIMATE.	TOTAL BIRTH RATE.
Amphill	25	24	1	11.0
Bedford... ..	420	399	21	10.3
Biggleswade	185	81	4	14.3
Dunstable	119	114	5	11.8
Kempston	80	78	2	14.5
Leighton Buzzard	83	83	0	12.0
Luton	949	905	44	13.1
Sandy	49	47	2	15.2
Aggregate of Urban Districts	1,810	1,731	79	12.3

RURAL DISTRICTS.	TOTAL BIRTHS.	LEGITIMATE.	ILLEGITIMATE.	TOTAL BIRTH RATE.
Ampthill	280	266	14	15.4
Bedford	326	317	9	14.7
Biggleswade	315	304	11	14.7
*Eaton Bray	17	17	0	17.5
Eaton Socon	37	33	4	11.5
Luton	203	196	7	16.0
Aggregate of Rural Districts	1,178	1,133	45	14.9

* Jan.-Mar. only. Transferred to Luton R.D. on 1/4/33.

STILL BIRTHS.

The Still-Birth Rate for the Administrative County for 1933, that is to say, the rate per thousand total births (live and still) was 37.37.

The Still-Birth Rate *per thousand of the population* for 1933 was 0.51 ; that for England and Wales being 0.62 per thousand.

Particulars of Still Births registered in the County during the last five years, are set out in the following Table :—

		TOTAL.		LEGITIMATE		ILLEGITIMATE.	
		Males.	Females.	Males	Females	Males	Females
Urban Districts	1929	45	35	44	33	1	2
	1930	40	37	36	36	4	1
	1931	35	44	30	38	5	6
	1932	36	39	36	36	0	3
	1933	42	34	42	33	0	1
Rural Districts	1929	28	19	26	18	2	1
	1930	17	25	14	23	3	2
	1931	28	15	25	14	3	1
	1932	29	9	27	7	2	2
	1933	20	20	18	19	2	1
Whole County	1929	73	54	70	51	3	3
	1930	57	62	50	59	7	3
	1931	63	59	55	52	8	7
	1932	65	48	63	43	2	5
	1933	62	54	60	52	2	2

DEATHS.

The Death-Rate for the Administrative County during the year 1933 was 11.6 per thousand ; that for England and Wales being 12.3 per thousand.

It will be observed that the death-rate for Bedfordshire is below that for England and Wales.

The total number of deaths registered in the Administrative County, after adjustment for outward and inward transfers, during 1933, was 2,616, compared with 2,640 in 1932.

The death-rates per 1,000 for the Administrative County and the Urban and Rural Districts thereof, and for England and Wales, were as follows :—

LOCALITIES.	GENERAL DEATH RATE.				
	1929.	1930.	1931.	1932.	1933.
Urban Districts	12.7	10.5	11.4	11.2	11.6
Rural Districts	13.6	11.8	12.8	12.9	11.5
Administrative County	13.0	10.9	11.9	11.8	11.6
England & Wales	13.4	11.4	12.3	12.0	12.3

The recorded Death-rates for the Sanitary Districts in Bedfordshire for 1932 and 1933 are given below :—

Urban Sanitary Districts.	Death Rate.		Rural Sanitary Districts.	Death Rate.	
	1932.	1933.		1932.	1933.
Ampthill	14.7	14.9	Ampthill	11.9	12.9
Bedford	12.2	12.5	Bedford	14.3	11.7
Biggleswade	14.5	12.4	Biggleswade	12.8	11.0
Dunstable	11.2	13.1	Eaton Bray	15.2	15.5
Kempston	12.7	12.4	Eaton Socon	14.0	11.8
Leighton Buzzard... ..	12.5	13.4	Luton	11.1	9.4
Luton	9.8	10.5			
Sandy	12.9	12.7			

CAUSES OF DEATH	AGGREGATE OF URBAN DISTRICTS							AGGREGATE OF RURAL DISTRICTS												
	At all ages	under 1 year	1 and under 2	2 and under 5	5 and under 15	15 and under 25	25 and under 45	45 and under 65	65 and under 75	75 and upwards	At all ages	under 1 year	1 and under 2	2 and under 5	5 and under 15	15 and under 25	25 and under 45	45 and under 65	65 and under 75	75 and upwards
Typhoid & Paratyphoid Fevers	—	—	2	1	2	—	1	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles ...	6	—	2	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever ...	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough ...	3	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria ...	8	—	—	2	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Influenza ...	80	3	—	1	—	2	14	21	14	25	39	1	1	—	2	3	3	14	4	11
Encephalitis Lethargica	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cerebro Spinal Fever ...	2	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tuberculosis of Resp. System...	101	—	—	—	—	2	49	27	27	2	31	—	—	—	1	3	21	3	1	—
Other Tuberculous Diseases ...	18	—	2	2	4	1	5	4	4	—	7	—	—	3	—	1	—	2	1	—
Syphilis ...	4	1	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
General Paralysis of the Insane, Tabes Dorsalis ...	7	—	—	—	—	—	4	3	3	—	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	1
Cancer, Malignant Disease ...	271	1	—	—	—	1	19	103	87	60	138	—	—	1	—	—	10	50	37	40
Diabetes ...	33	—	—	—	1	—	1	12	11	8	12	—	—	—	—	—	1	4	5	2
Cerebral Haemorrhage, etc.	109	—	—	—	—	—	3	26	41	39	63	—	—	—	—	—	2	9	18	36
Heart Disease ...	342	—	—	—	3	6	8	90	118	117	161	—	—	—	1	—	2	36	61	61
Aneurysm ...	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Other Circulatory Diseases	88	—	—	—	1	—	—	11	26	50	66	—	—	—	—	—	1	5	16	44
Bronchitis ...	70	4	—	1	—	—	7	13	12	33	37	1	—	—	1	—	1	4	7	23
Pneumonia (all forms)	68	10	1	—	1	4	9	16	11	16	41	4	4	1	2	1	4	9	5	11
Other Respiratory Diseases	10	—	—	—	—	1	3	3	1	2	5	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	1	1
Peptic Ulcer ...	14	—	—	—	—	—	6	4	2	1	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—
Diarrhoea, etc.	5	2	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	1	7	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	2	—
Appendicitis ...	11	—	—	—	1	3	—	3	2	—	2	3	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—
Cirrhosis of Liver ...	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	1	1	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—
Other Diseases of Liver, etc.	9	—	—	—	—	—	1	6	1	1	6	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	5	4
Other Digestive Diseases	22	1	—	2	1	2	4	4	3	5	18	1	—	3	1	3	1	3	8	—
Acute and Chronic Nephritis ...	56	—	—	—	—	1	13	16	17	10	21	—	—	—	—	1	3	4	—	—
Puerperal Sepsis ...	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Puerperal Causes	7	—	—	—	—	1	6	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—
Congenital Debility, Premature Birth, Malformations, etc....	53	50	—	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	36	35	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Senility ...	94	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	13	79	75	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	10	64
Suicide ...	19	—	—	—	—	1	9	6	2	1	6	—	—	—	—	1	2	1	2	5
Other Violence ...	62	3	1	3	7	5	10	9	10	14	33	—	—	2	4	5	6	9	2	—
Other Defined Diseases...	120	5	3	—	5	7	23	38	23	16	72	4	1	—	2	2	13	19	20	11
Causes ill-defined or unknown...	5	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	1	4	—	—	—	—	1	—	2	1	—
TOTALS : ALL CAUSES ...	1713	82	12	14	36	59	201	424	404	481	1903	51	6	12	16	23	75	187	214	319

CAUSES OF DEATH IN THE ADMINISTRATIVE AREAS OF
THE COUNTY OF BEDFORD, 1933.

CAUSES OF DEATH	ADMINISTRATIVE AREAS														TOTAL U.D's, 1933
	Amptill		Bedford		Biggleswade		Dunstable Borough	*Eaton Bray Rural	Eaton Socon Rural	Kempston Urban	Leighton Buzzard Urban	Luton		Sandy Urban	
	Urban	Rural	Borough	Rural	Urban	Rural						Borough	Rural		
Typhoid & Paratyphoid Fevers	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	1	1	2	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	1	6
Scarlet Fever	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	2
Whooping Cough	—	—	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	3
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	8	—	—	8
Influenza	—	9	27	8	6	10	8	1	2	2	4	31	9	2	80
Encephalitis Lethargica	—	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	1	4
Cerebro-spinal Fever	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	2
Tuberculosis of Resp. System...	1	8	19	13	5	7	5	—	1	6	1	61	2	3	101
Other Tuberculous Diseases	—	4	4	—	1	2	—	1	—	1	—	12	—	—	18
Syphilis	—	1	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	4
General Paralysis of the Insane	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tabes Dorsalis	—	1	—	2	—	2	—	—	—	—	1	5	—	1	7
Cancer, Malignant Disease	10	41	84	37	8	43	21	—	2	8	14	119	15	7	271
Diabetes	2	5	6	1	2	4	3	—	—	2	3	14	2	1	33
Cerebral Haemorrhage, &c.	6	26	26	16	3	10	21	1	—	2	13	43	10	2	109
Heart Disease	6	39	116	50	16	42	28	2	8	13	20	140	20	3	342
Aneurysm	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	3
Other Circulatory Diseases	—	6	50	29	2	13	6	1	6	5	7	17	5	1	88
Bronchitis	1	5	22	9	2	11	6	1	4	1	—	36	7	2	70
Pneumonia (all forms)...	1	6	20	13	8	17	6	1	1	2	4	26	3	1	68
Other Respiratory Diseases	—	1	3	3	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	6	—	—	10
Peptic Ulcer	—	2	1	—	2	—	2	—	—	—	—	9	1	—	14
Diarrhoea, &c. (under 2 years)	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	—	2
Appendicitis	—	—	3	—	—	2	1	—	—	—	1	6	—	—	11
Cirrhosis of Liver	—	1	—	—	1	1	—	1	—	1	—	4	—	—	6
Other Diseases of Liver, etc.	—	1	3	2	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	5	2	—	9
Other Digestive Diseases	1	4	8	3	—	8	4	1	1	—	2	10	5	—	25
Acute and Chronic Nephritis	1	9	21	4	2	5	4	—	—	7	4	14	3	3	56
Puerperal Sepsis	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Other Puerperal Causes	—	1	1	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	5	—	—	7
Congenital Debility, Premature Birth, Malformations, etc....	1	8	8	10	3	11	3	—	—	2	4	30	7	2	53
Senility	1	18	17	23	4	16	7	3	6	1	6	54	9	4	94
Suicide	—	1	5	2	1	3	—	—	—	1	1	8	—	3	19
Other Violence	—	8	15	6	1	13	4	—	2	4	1	35	4	2	62
Other Defined Diseases...	2	19	41	22	5	12	7	1	5	6	7	50	13	2	120
Causes ill-defined or unknown...	—	3	3	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	5
TOTALS : ALL CAUSES ...	34	236	511	259	74	236	132	15	38	68	93	760	119	41	1715

* January to March only. Transferred to Luton R.D. on 1/4/33.

A comparative statement showing the chief causes of death in 1932 and 1933 is set out below :—

CAUSE OF DEATH.	1932	1933
Heart Disease	463	503
Cancer	377	409
Cerebral Haemorrhage	169	172
Arterio-sclerosis and other Circulatory Diseases	156	158
Tuberculosis (pulmonary)	136	132
Influenza	103	119
Pneumonia	112	109
Bronchitis	109	107
TOTAL	1,625	1,709

As in the previous year, the above-named causes of death were responsible for considerably more than half the deaths occurring in the County during 1933.

INFANTILE MORTALITY.

This is calculated as the proportion of deaths of children under one year of age to every 1,000 live births and forms the record known as the rate of infantile mortality.

The death-rates per 1,000 of the live births for the Administrative County, the Urban and Rural Districts thereof, and for England and Wales for the last five years are given below :—

LOCALITIES.	INFANTILE MORTALITY RATE.				
	1929	1930	1931	1932	1933
Urban Districts	50.9	42.5	58.0	53.3	45.3
Rural Districts	51.8	52.8	42.8	48.8	43.3
Administrative County	51.2	46.3	52.3	51.6	44.5
England & Wales	74.0	60.0	66.0	65.0	64.0

It will be observed that the rate of infantile mortality has fallen considerably compared with that for 1932. It is gratifying to state that the figure for the year under review is the lowest ever recorded in this County.

Ten of the deaths were of illegitimate children. These furnished a rate of infantile mortality of 80.6 per thousand illegitimate live births as compared with 75.3 in 1932.

The deaths of infants under one year of age amount to 5.1 per cent of the total number of deaths at all ages, as against 6.1 per cent in the preceding year.

MATERNAL MORTALITY.

The number of deaths occurring from accidents and diseases due to pregnancy and parturition was 12, two of these deaths being attributed to puerperal sepsis.

The following table shows the maternal death-rate for the County, compared with that of England and Wales, for the last three years :—

	Year.	Live Births Registered.	No. of Maternal Deaths.	Rates per 1,000 Live Births registered.		
				Puerperal Sepsis.	Other Puerperal Causes.	Total Puerperal Mortality.
Bedfordshire ...	1931	3,154	12	1.26	2.53	3.80
	1932	3,140	11	0.95	2.54	3.50
	1933	2,988	12	0.67	3.35	4.02
England & Wales	1931	632,081	2,601	1.66	2.45	4.11
	1932	613,972	2,587	1.61	2.63	4.24
	1933	580,413	2,618	1.79	2.63	4.42

SENILE MORTALITY.

The following Table shows the senile mortality in the Urban and Rural Districts, as indicated by the percentage of deaths over 65 years of age to total deaths :—

LOCALITIES.		PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL DEATHS.		
		1931	1932	1933
Urban Districts	...	51.7	50.0	51.7
Rural Districts	...	56.9	59.2	59.0
The County	...	53.7	53.6	54.2

The many persons dying at over 65 years of age is evidence of the fact that a high proportion of the population survives to a good age.

HEART DISEASE.

The deaths from heart disease showed an increase. It is the chief cause of death in Bedfordshire, as elsewhere. 88.3 per cent of the deaths occurred in persons over the age of 55.

The following are the death rates from heart disease for 1933 in Bedfordshire :—

Urban Districts	2.33	per thousand of population
Rural Districts	2.05	„ „
Whole County	2.23	„ „

The real origin of many of these deaths, and of an appreciable amount of invalidity through life is rheumatism in childhood, which damages the heart. This important fact is becoming more generally realised and measures both for prevention and treatment are in operation throughout the Country. Exposure, inadequate sustenance, inadequate clothing, particularly in the matter of footwear, and ill-ventilated and damp living and sleeping rooms, are all factors which may predispose to this disease in childhood.

It is impossible to over emphasize the importance of early and efficient treatment of children found to be suffering from rheumatic affections.

CANCER.

Once again it is my melancholy duty to record that in common with the rest of the United Kingdom there has been an increase in the number of deaths in Bedfordshire due to Cancer. .

Until such time as the cause or causes of Cancer are known no considerable reduction in the death rate can be anticipated. The importance of patients suffering from or who fear that they may be suffering from Cancer seeking medical advice at the earliest possible moment, when there is a chance of cure, cannot be over-emphasized. It is still the common experience of Surgeons that patients, suffering from Cancer in a part of the body where this growth can be easily removed, present themselves for the first time so late that there is no possibility of cure.

In the administrative County 409 deaths were certified in 1933 as due to Cancer or other malignant disease, as against 377 in 1932. 77.3 per cent. of the deaths occurred in persons over the age of 55.

The following table gives the mean figures for the last four quinquennial periods and also the figures for 1933 :—

DISTRICTS.	MEAN OF 5 YEARS 1912-1916	MEAN OF 5 YEARS 1917-1921	MEAN OF 5 YEARS 1922-1926	MEAN OF 5 YEARS 1927-1931	1933
URBAN :—					
Ampthill ...	3	5	4	5	10
Bedford ...	41	52	54	67	84
Biggleswade	10	8	11	9	8
Dunstable ...	11	14	14	17	21
Kempston ...	5	6	4	10	8
Leighton					
Buzzard ...	11	9	9	12	14
Luton ...	48	52	71	87	119
Sandy ...	<i>(Included in Biggleswade Rural prior to 1927)</i>			7	7
Totals	129	146	167	214	271
RURAL :—					
Ampthill ...	29	30	35	36	41
Bedford ...	29	26	34	37	37
Biggleswade	29	33	41	38	43
Eaton Bray	5	7	4	5	*0
Eaton Socon	4	7	5	5	2
Luton ...	9	13	14	11	15
Totals	105	116	133	132	138
Grand Totals	234	262	300	346	409

* Jan.-Mar. only. Transferred to Luton R.D. on 1/4/33.

The Cancer death-rates per thousand of the population living for the Administrative County and the Urban and Rural Districts thereof, and for England and Wales, were as follows :—

	DEATH RATE.		
	1931.	1932.	1933.
Urban Districts ...	1.54	1.62	1.84
Rural Districts ...	1.83	1.80	1.75
Administrative County	1.64	1.68	1.81
England and Wales ...	1.48	1.51	1.52

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Notifications of cases of Infectious Disease received during the year 1933,
under Article 14 (2) of the Sanitary Officers Order, 1926.

	Administrative Areas														
	Ampt Hill		Bedford		Biggleswade		Dunstable Urban	*Eaton Bray Rural	Eaton Socon Rural	Kempston Urban	Leighton Buzzard Urban	Luton		Sandy Urban	TOTALS
	Urban	Rural	Borough	Rural	Urban	Rural						Borough	Rural		
Scarlet Fever	11	29	137	73	9	50	9	—	4	69	28	73	40	3	535
Diphtheria including Mem- branous Croup	9	15	3	4	2	—	3	—	—	—	3	105	12	1	157
Enteric Fever (Typhoid and Paratyphoid)	—	1	2	1	—	1	—	1	—	1	1	1	1	—	10
Pneumonia	3	13	88	30	29	55	14	5	12	4	9	38	6	—	306
Cerebro-spinal Fever	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	2
Acute Polio-Myelitis	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	3
Encephalitis Lethargica	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	4
Dysentery... ..	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Ophthalmia Neonatorum... ..	—	—	3	5	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	14
Erysipelas	—	4	10	6	2	11	1	1	9	—	2	32	2	3	83
Eruptive Fever	—	—	5	1	—	1	1	—	—	—	2	1	—	—	11
Eruptive Pyrexia	—	—	3	4	—	2	—	—	1	—	—	8	—	—	18
Malaria	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
TOTALS	23	62	252	127	43	123	28	7	26	74	45	265	62	8	1145

* January-March only. Transferred to Luton R.D. on 1/4/33.

When this table is compared with those of the two previous years it will be seen that there was a considerable increase in the prevalence of Scarlet Fever and Diphtheria. In 1931 the number of cases of Scarlet Fever notified was 301, and in 1932, 343.

The number of cases of Diphtheria notified in 1931 was 147, and in 1932, 65.

There was also an increase in the number of cases of Pneumonia and Erysipelas notified during the year.

INFLUENZA.

Influenza of a somewhat severe type was prevalent during the first quarter of the year, and was the cause of 119 deaths, as compared with 103 in 1932. The County death-rate from influenza was 0.53 per thousand; that for England and Wales being 0.57 per thousand. Influenza was an immediate or contributory cause of death in 20,107 of the 170,002 deaths registered in England and Wales during the March quarter of 1933, that is to say, 11.83 per cent of the total deaths. In the previous epidemic in the March quarter of 1929, the percentage was 11.57.

There can be no doubt that a considerable number of the deaths certified as due to pneumonia, bronchitis, and heart disease followed attacks of influenza.

SMALL POX.

The County was entirely free from Smallpox during the year 1933.

DIPHTHERIA.

157 cases of Diphtheria were notified in the Administrative County during 1933 as against 65 in 1932, the disease being most prevalent in the last three months of the year. There were eight deaths, all of which occurred in the Borough of Luton. As will be seen from the Table on page 15, 7 of these deaths were of children under the age of fifteen, representing a County death-rate of 0.03 per 1,000.

DISTRICTS.	DEATH RATE.				
	1929	1930	1931	1932	1933
Urban Districts	0.05	0.06	0.03	0.01	0.05
Rural Districts	0.05	0.06	0.05	0.00	0.00
The County ...	0.05	0.06	0.04	0.01	0.03

The death-rate for England and Wales for 1933 was the same as in the previous, year, namely 0.06.

SCARLET FEVER

There were 3 deaths from Scarlet Fever in the Administrative County in 1933 ; 1 in the Borough of Luton, 1 in the Bedford Rural District, and 1 in the Kempston Urban District.

DISTRICTS.	DEATH RATE.				
	1929	1930	1931	1932	1933
Urban Districts	0.02	0.02	0.00	0.02	0.01
Rural Districts	0.02	0.02	0.00	0.02	0.01
The County ...	0.02	0.02	0.00	0.02	0.01

The death-rate for England and Wales in 1933 was 0.02.

The disease which was more prevalent in Bedfordshire than in the previous year, reached its peak in the month of October. During this month 87 cases were notified, 29 of which were in the Borough of Bedford and 15 in the Kempston Urban District.

ENTERIC FEVER

(including Typhoid and Paratyphoid).

There were 10 cases of Enteric Fever notified during 1933—the same number as in 1932. There were no deaths from this condition.

DISTRICTS.	DEATH RATE.				
	1929	1930	1931	1932	1933
Urban Districts	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.00
Rural Districts	0.00	0.02	0.00	0.02	0.00
The County ...	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.02	0.00

The death-rate for England and Wales in 1933 was again 0.01.

PUERPERAL FEVER AND PUERPERAL PYREXIA.

There were two deaths from Puerperal Sepsis in the Administrative County in 1933. The death-rate, expressed as a rate per 1,000 registered live births, was 0.67, as compared with the rate of 1.79 for England and Wales.

During the year 18 cases of Puerperal Pyrexia were notified and 11 cases of Puerperal Fever as against 15 and 7 respectively in 1932.

In accordance with Article 5 of the Public Health (Notification of Puerperal Fever and Puerperal Pyrexia) Regulations, 1926, the District Medical Officer of Health is required to forward a copy of every notification of Puerperal Fever and Puerperal Pyrexia received by him, within 24 hours of receipt, to the County Medical Officer of Health.

Whenever a doctor is called in for a rise in temperature it is the duty of the midwife immediately to ascertain the doctor's diagnosis of the case, and if there is the slightest suspicion of sepsis, the midwife must notify the County Medical Officer in accordance with Rules E. 6 and 23 of the Central Midwives Board, and take the necessary steps for proper disinfection before attending any other maternity cases.

It should be understood that in some cases the rise in temperature during the puerperium is due to some inter-current malady.

MEASLES

Measles was very prevalent in the County during the first half of the year. This disease, not being notifiable in this County, the number of cases occurring is unknown, but the returns furnished in connection with the School Medical Service have given information as to the localities in which measles has been prevalent amongst the children attending the Elementary Schools.

There were eight deaths from Measles in the Administrative County during 1933 as compared with 16 in 1932 ; representing a Death Rate for the County of 0.03.

DISTRICTS.	DEATH RATE.				
	1929	1930	1931	1932	1933
Urban Districts	0.00	0.01	0.01	0.07	0.04
Rural Districts	0.00	0.02	0.03	0.06	0.02
The County ...	0.00	0.01	0.02	0.07	0.03

The death-rate for England and Wales in 1933 was 0.05.

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM

Fourteen cases of this disease, which is one of the chief causes of blindness, were notified during the year—as compared with 8 during the preceding year. All the infants received prompt treatment.

The duty of notifying a case of Ophthalmia Neonatorum is placed solely upon the medical practitioner in attendance upon the case. At the same time an obligation is laid upon the Medical Officer of Health of a Local Sanitary Authority to forward a copy of every notification which he receives under the Public Health (Ophthalmia Neonatorum) Regulations, 1926, to the County Medical Officer of Health, within 24 hours after the receipt of the notification. These Regulations *do not* relieve midwives of their duty under Rule E. 21 (5) of the Central Midwives Board of calling in medical aid to a case of "inflammation of, or discharge from, the eyes, however slight."

Treatment to be effective must be thorough and continuous and the County Council has directed that in cases of Ophthalmia Neonatorum, the services of the Health Visitor shall, wherever possible, be made available for daily visits to the patients ; but where this is impossible, the County Medical Officer of Health, shall, in consultation with the medical man in charge of the case, make such arrangements as may be possible for the carrying out of the prescribed medical treatment, or for removal to hospital.

CEREBRO-SPINAL FEVER.

There were two deaths from this disease in the Administrative County during 1933.

ACUTE POLIO-MYELITIS.

There were two deaths from acute Polio-myelitis in the County in 1933.

ENCEPHALITIS LETHARGICA.

There were six deaths from this disease in the Administrative County in 1933.

WHOOPING COUGH.

Whooping cough was not so prevalent as in 1932.

There were four deaths in the Administrative County in 1933 ; representing a Death Rate for the County of 0.02. All the deaths occurred in children under five years of age.

DISTRICTS.	DEATH RATE.				
	1929	1930	1931	1932	1933
Urban Districts	0.05	0.02	0.03	0.06	0.02
Rural Districts	0.04	0.05	0.03	0.03	0.01
The County ...	0.05	0.03	0.03	0.05	0.02

The death rate for England and Wales in 1933 was 0.05.

DIARRHOEA AND ENTERITIS.

There were only five deaths from these causes among children under two years of age. The death-rate is expressed as the proportion which the deaths under two years of age from this disease form to a thousand live births. For the County the rate is 1.7, which compares favourably with the rate for England and Wales (7.1).

The protection of food from flies and dust both before and after delivery to the consumer, cleanliness in the home and feeding utensils, the covering and frequent removal of household rubbish, are of the utmost importance in preventing these diseases. These precautions are particularly necessary in hot dry weather.

The delivery of milk in bottles, and the increasing custom of delivering food stuffs wrapped in some protective covering, is much to be commended.

PHTHISIS AND OTHER TUBERCULOUS DISEASES.

There were 157 deaths registered from this cause in the Administrative County in 1933, being 6.0 per cent of the total number of deaths from all causes, as compared with the previous year's total of 172 and 6.5 per cent respectively.

The following table shows the death-rates per 1,000 population from Phthisis for the County and the Urban and Rural Districts :—

DISTRICTS.	Phthisis Death Rate per Thousand				
	1929	1930	1931	1932	1933
Urban Districts	0.74	0.71	0.79	0.69	0.69
Rural Districts	0.36	0.78	0.64	0.46	0.39
Administrative County	0.61	0.73	0.74	0.61	0.58

The Phthisis death-rate for England and Wales in 1933 was 0.69.

The County death-rate from Tuberculosis (all forms) per thousand of the population was 0.69, that for the combined Urban Districts being 0.81 and that for the combined Rural Districts being 0.48.

The following new cases of tuberculosis were notified during 1933 :—

Pulmonary	Males	97	194
	Females	97	
		————	
Non-Pulmonary	Males	21	41
	Females	20	
		————	
			————
			235

Compared with 1932, these figures show a decrease of 8 cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis and an increase of 4 cases of Non-

Pulmonary Tuberculosis. As in the previous year, there were fewer cases of pulmonary tuberculosis notified during 1933 than in any other year since 1912, when tuberculosis was made a notifiable disease.

The following table shows the age periods of the new cases and all deaths from the disease in the Administrative County during 1933 :—

AGE PERIODS.	NEW CASES NOTIFIED				DEATHS			
	PULMONARY		NON-PULMONARY		PULMONARY		NON-PULMONARY	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1	—	1	2	5	—	—	3	4
5	4	2	5	3	—	—	2	—
10	5	2	4	3	—	1	2	1
15	10	15	—	—	3	5	2	—
20	12	21	2	6	7	7	—	—
25	20	27	3	3	15	24	1	1
35	19	15	—	—	22	10	1	2
45	17	7	2	—	17	8	1	1
55	10	5	2	—	2	5	2	1
65 and upwards	—	2	1	—	3	3	—	1
TOTALS ...	97	97	21	20	69	63	14	11

41 other cases (24 males and 17 females) came to the notice of your Medical Officer other than by notification as required by the Regulations, *e.g.*, Death Returns, etc.

It is scarcely necessary to direct attention to the importance in the interest of all concerned, of an early diagnosis and notification of this disease. Where a definite diagnosis of a suspected case is difficult, the Tuberculosis Officers appointed under the County Tuberculosis scheme are available for consultation, and full facilities are provided for assistance in diagnosis.

If in any particular case, the practitioner considers that the circumstances are such as to render it unnecessary or contrary to the interests of the patient for the home to be visited by an Official Medical Officer, any such visits would be dispensed with by arrangement with the Officer concerned.

As in the previous year, approximately 70 per cent. of the new cases notified were examined by the Council's Tuberculosis Officers.

The number of cases remaining on the Register of Notifications on December 31st, 1933, was 1,715 pulmonary (814 males and 901 females) and 660 non-pulmonary (336 males and 324 females) making a total of 2,375.

The total number on the Registers on the last day of the previous year was 2,384.

These figures show that approximately 10 per 1,000 of the population of Bedfordshire were known to be suffering from tuberculosis last year.

Dispensaries.

The Dispensaries continue to be well attended, both by patients in need of supervision and others seeking advice as to their health. The number of old patients visiting the Dispensaries for periodical examination is highly satisfactory, thus greatly helping in the keeping of an accurate Register of Patients, since all cases are reviewed each year as to progress, fitness for work, etc.

The Dispensaries are open on the following days in each week and between the times stated :—

Dispensary at	Day	Time
61, Harpur Street, Bedford ...	Thursday ...	10.30—12.30
St. Andrew's Rooms, Biggleswade	Tuesday ...	11—1
17, Church Street, Luton ...	Tuesday (Children)	12—1
	„ (Men)	2—5
	Thursday (Women)	2.30—5

On January 1st, 1933, the total number of names on the Registers of the three Dispensaries was 1,351

During the year the following cases were added :—

“Lost sight of” cases returned	...	...	...	...	8
From other Counties	...	...	...	...	12

New Cases examined and found to be :—

Definitely Tuberculous	...	...	...	...	160
Doubtfully Tuberculous	...	...	...	...	3
Non-tuberculous	...	...	...	...	434

Contacts examined and found to be :—

Definitely Tuberculous	...	...	...	...	3
Non-tuberculous	...	...	...	...	184

2,155

Of this number 870 were written off for the following reasons :—

Recovered...	...	...	...	...	101
Non-tuberculous	...	...	...	...	623
Transferred to other Counties or “Lost sight of”	39
Dead (all causes)	107
					<hr/> 870

Number remaining on 31st December, 1933	...	<hr/> 1,285
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The number of cases remaining on the Registers at the end of 1933 was therefore 1,285 classified as follows :—

DIAGNOSIS								
NOT COMPLETED			PULMONARY			NON-PULMONARY		
<i>Men</i>	<i>Women</i>	<i>Children</i>	<i>Men</i>	<i>Women</i>	<i>Children</i>	<i>Men</i>	<i>Women</i>	<i>Children</i>
1	—	2	419	472	126	56	73	136

The number of attendances at the Dispensaries during 1933 (including contacts) was 2,713 and 3,201 visits were paid to the homes of patients by the Tuberculosis Nurse and the Council's Health Visitors.

All cases on the Dispensary Register are visited from time to time by the Council's Health Visitors, and visits and examinations are made by the Tuberculosis Officers as and when required.

During the year 363 consultations took place with medical practitioners, 20 of which were at the homes of the patients, and in addition 390 visits were paid to patients at their homes by the Tuberculosis Officers.

710 specimens of sputum were examined.

422 Domiciliary Reports on Progress (Form G.P. 36) were received during the year from Panel practitioners with regard to insured persons suffering from tuberculosis.

One patient received Finsen light treatment at the London Hospital.

As in previous years, the Ministry of Pensions have made use of the services of your County Medical Officer as Tuberculosis Referee for the Bedfordshire area. Cases have been referred to me for examination and report by the Ministry of Pensions ; and the local Area Officers of the Ministry have received reports from me as to the condition, progress, etc., of Pensioners suffering from Tuberculosis, and recommendations as to the form of treatment most appropriate in each case.

Extra Nourishment.

As in past years extra nourishment has been granted to suitable cases, all applications being investigated by a special Sub-Committee appointed for this purpose. Every effort is made to see that the milk supplied is of an approved quality, and wherever possible "Grade A" milk is given. In all, 9,393 pints of milk and 4,203 eggs were distributed to necessitous tuberculous patients during the financial year ended 31st March, 1934, at a total cost of £149 17s. 11d. as compared with £229 3s. 2d. in the previous twelve months.

Mogerhanger Park Sanatorium

Institutional treatment for cases of pulmonary Tuberculosis, and suitable cases of non-pulmonary Tuberculosis (glandular) is provided at the Council's Sanatorium, situated at Mogerhanger Park. The Sanatorium has accommodation for 84 beds; 39 male, 39 female, and 6 children. During the year 1933, 90 cases completed treatment at the Sanatorium. In 55 cases the disease was either arrested or the condition much improved. Owing to the fact that cases in all stages of Tuberculosis are admitted to the Sanatorium, 14 failed to improve, and 21 died in the Institution. One valuable means of lessening the spread of Tuberculosis is by removing persons seriously affected with the disease from their homes to the Sanatorium; this arrangement results in increased comfort to the sufferer, and greater security to other members of the household. The County Dentists continue to visit the Sanatorium to attend those patients who are found to be in need of dental treatment.

The following table shows the condition at the end of 1933 of all patients who have received treatment at the Mogerhanger Park Sanatorium since it was opened on the 18th November, 1921 :—

Condition as at 31st December, 1933.	CLASSIFICATION ON ADMISSION.													TOTAL CASES.	
	Pulmonary Tuberculosis.										Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis.				
	Early.			Intermediate.			Advanced.			Total.					
	M.	F.	Ch.	M.	F.	Ch.	M.	F.	Ch.		M.	F.	Ch.		Tot
<i>Discharged during the five years ending 31/12/26—</i>															
Recovered ...	18	23	18	7	11	1	...	1	...	79	...	1	8	9	88
Disease Quiescent ...	20	22	13	13	13	...	1	...	...	82	...	...	7	7	89
Disease Active—															
Improved ...	2	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	1	...	...	1	4
Not Improved ...	7	8	1	10	4	...	1	1	...	32	...	2	...	2	34
Non-Tuberculous ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Patient Died ...	58	38	5	90	37	3	29	13	3	276	...	...	1	1	277
Transferred to other Areas or lost sight of	17	36	8	8	19	...	2	...	...	90	2	1	6	9	99
Total ...	122	128	45	128	84	4	33	15	3	562	3	4	22	29	597
<i>Discharged during the five years ending 31/12/31 —</i>															
Recovered ...	4	4	6	...	1	2	...	...	...	17	...	1	13	14	31
Disease Quiescent ...	59	70	41	16	17	...	...	...	...	203	1	3	36	40	243
Disease Active—															
Improved ...	4	4	...	6	3	...	...	...	...	17	...	...	2	2	19
Not Improved ...	12	16	10	8	7	...	...	...	...	53	...	...	6	6	59
Non-Tuberculous ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Patient Died ...	53	51	3	96	59	...	34	23	1	320	1	...	2	3	323
Transferred to other Areas or lost sight of	17	20	11	11	12	...	1	...	...	72	...	1	8	9	81
Total ...	149	165	71	137	99	2	35	23	1	682	2	5	67	74	757

Condition as at 31st December, 1933.	CLASSIFICATION ON ADMISSION.														TOTAL CASES.
	Pulmonary Tuberculosis.										Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis.				
	Early.			Intermediate.			Advanced.			Total.	Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis.			Tot	
	M.	F.	Ch.	M.	F.	Ch.	M.	F.	Ch.		M.	F.	Ch.		
<i>Discharged during the year ending 31/12/32—</i>															
Disease Quiescent ...	11	6	7	4	3	...	1	...	...	32	1	...	2	3	35
Disease Active—															
Improved ...	1	1	1	3	3	...	...	...	...	9	...	...	1	1	10
Not-Improved ...	5	5	1	6	3	...	1	...	...	21	1	...	...	1	22
Non-Tuberculous ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Patient Died ...	2	2	...	7	14	...	13	15	...	53	...	...	...	...	53
Transferred to other Areas or lost sight of	...	1	1	1	...	1	...	...	...	4	...	...	...	...	4
Total ...	19	15	10	21	23	1	15	15	...	119	2	...	3	5	125
<i>Discharged during the year ending 31/12/33—</i>															
Disease Quiescent ...	4	6	7	4	5	2	...	...	...	28	...	...	3	3	31
Disease Active—															
Improved ...	2	2	1	7	3	1	1	1	...	18	...	...	1	1	19
Not Improved ...	3	2	2	4	...	...	1	1	...	13	...	1	...	1	14
Non-Tuberculous ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Patient Died ...	...	...	...	6	...	...	9	11	...	26	...	...	...	...	26
Transferred to other Areas or lost sight of	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total ...	9	10	10	21	8	3	11	13	...	85	...	1	4	5	90

The results shown compare very favourably with those published by other similar Institutions.

Public Health Act, 1925, Sec. 62.

It was not found necessary during 1933 to apply for any Orders under Section 62 of the Public Health Act, 1925, for the compulsory removal to Hospital of persons suffering from Tuberculosis, cases of the disease specified under this Section having voluntarily agreed to removal to the Council's Institution.

Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis.

Cases of Tuberculosis of the bones, joints, etc., in adults and children are dealt with by securing their admission to Institutions recognised by the Ministry of Health for this purpose. Among those made use of by the Council are the following :—

- Royal Sea-Bathing Hospital, Margate.
- Creton Sanatorium, Northamptonshire.

Royal National Orthopaedic Hospital (Country Branch),
Stanmore.

Lord Mayor Treloar Cripples' Hospital and College, Alton.

United Services Fund Hospital, Heatherwood, Ascot.

St. Martin's Orthopaedic Hospital, Pyrford.

St. George's Convalescent Branch Hospital, Wimbledon.

Wingfield Orthopaedic Hospital, Headington, Oxford.

Manfield Orthopaedic Hospital, Northampton.

Victoria Home, Margate.

Papworth Village Settlement, Cambridge.

It will be observed that some of these Institutions are at a considerable distance from Bedfordshire, and the travelling expenses to and from these Institutions are, therefore, somewhat high. In cases where the patients are unable to meet these costs, the whole or part is paid by the County Council.

In cases where the circumstances of the patients make it impossible for them to bear the cost of surgical appliances, the necessary expenditure is met by the County Council.

Shelters

The Council own a number of Shelters which are loaned to suitable patients.

This provision has proved of great service, particularly to patients who have become used to sleeping in plenty of fresh air whilst in sanatoria. Special visits are made to patients to whom shelters have been loaned to ascertain that they are being made proper use of.

General

The closest co-operation exists between your Tuberculosis Officers and the School Medical Officers in the County ; all children found by the latter either to be suffering from Tuberculosis, or suspected to be so affected, are referred to the Tuberculosis Officers for examination and necessary action.

The same co-operation exists with regard to the general Hospitals at Bedford and Luton. I am gratified to be able to report that the medical practitioners of Bedfordshire continue to make full use of the facilities afforded them under the Council's Tuberculosis Scheme, and I gladly avail myself of this opportunity of expressing to them my sincere thanks for their valuable help, and testifying to the cordial relations which exist between them and the Public Health Department.

Residential Treatment.

The following Table shows the extent of institutional treatment (other than in Public Assistance Institutions) afforded to Bedfordshire patients :—

	In Institutions on 1/1/33	Admitted during the year	Disch'ged during the year	Died in Institutions	Remaining in on 31/12/33
Adults { Men ...	28	51	33	12	34
{ Women ...	21	47	30	9	29
Children ...	18	24	22	1	19
Total ...	67	122	85	22	82

Of the total of 82 patients remaining in Institutions on the 31st December, 1933, 56 were receiving treatment in the Council's Sanatorium at Mogerhanger. The remainder were receiving treatment in one or other of the Institutions named on pages 31 and 32.

On comparing these figures with those of the previous year, it is seen that the number of patients admitted to Institutions during 1933 was 9 less than the number admitted during 1932.

VENEREAL DISEASES.

There has been no material change during the year in the arrangements made for the treatment of Venereal diseases.

The Clinics are open on the following days in each week and between the times stated :—

CLINIC AT	DAY	TIME
Bedford County Hospital ...	Wednesdays ...	... Women, 5.30—6.30 p.m. Men, 6.45—7.45 p.m.
	Fridays ...	... Women 2—3 p.m. Men, 3.15—4.15 p.m.
Bute Hospital Luton ...	Wednesdays	... Women, 2—3 p.m. Men, 3.15 to 4.15 p.m.
	Fridays ...	... Women, 5.30—6.30 p.m. Men, 6.45—7.45 p.m.

Intermediate treatment is carried out at Bedford on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday evenings from 7 to 8 ; and at Luton on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday evenings from 6.30 to 7.30.

For the purpose of comparison, the following table is inserted, showing the principal statistics for each area for the last five years :—

BEDFORD

Year	New Cases.				Total No. of injects. of N.A.B., etc.	Wasser-man Tests	Total attendances of Patients
	Syphilis	Gonor-rhoea	Non V.D.	Total			
1929	20	28	20	68	236	46	1089
1930	31	48	19	98	405	74	1551
1931	23	52	18	94	432	51	1696
1932	21	52	14	87	956	88	1982
1933	36	77	8	121	876	130	2976

LUTON

Year	New Cases.				Total No. of injects. of N.A.B., etc.	Wasser-man Tests	Total attendances of Patients
	Syphilis	Gonor-rhoea	Non-V.D.	Total			
1929	27	54	44	125	328	78	2179
1930	18	89	39	146	354	92	2129
1931	36	83	31	150	647	84	2228
1932	43	73	26	142	1357	163	2601
1933	23	87	21	131	1152	120	3118

An examination of the above statistics shows an increase in the number of cases coming under treatment for the first time during 1933 at the Bedford Clinic and a decrease at Luton.

The number of attendances made by patients shows a very satisfactory increase. It will be noticed that the Bedford figures have gone up by approximately 50 % of the total attendances for 1932, and the Luton figures also show a substantial increase.

It was necessary for three patients (females, aged 21, 22 and 23 respectively) to receive hospital in-patient treatment. Arrangements were made for one to be admitted to the Royal Free Hospital, London, and the other two to the Sheffield Street Hospital, London.

At the end of 1933, the total number of patients on the books was as follows :—

		<i>Syphilis</i>		<i>Gonorrhoea</i>		<i>Total</i>	
		M	F	M	F	M	F
Bedford	...	53	22	40	14	93	36
Luton	...	35	25	58	26	93	51
		—	—	—	—	—	—
		88	47	98	40	186	87
		—	—	—	—	—	—

(N.B.—Of these cases, 12 of Syphilis and 22 of Gonorrhoea attend the Clinics from outside the County).

It will be seen from the above figures that the total number of persons under treatment or observation on 31st December, 1933, was 273, being an increase of 68 on the previous year.

BACTERIOLOGICAL DIAGNOSES.

Arrangements are made whereby medical men practising in the County can obtain free bacteriological examinations in cases of diphtheria, enteric fever and tuberculosis.

The County Medical Officer is prepared to undertake this work so far as Tuberculosis is concerned and outfits are supplied from the Office on request.

With regard to other examinations the Medical Officer of Health for the Borough of Bedford is supplied with a Laboratory and undertakes the necessary bacteriological work in so far as this Borough is concerned.

In other Districts arrangements have been made for the work to be done at one of the following Institutions :—The Lister Institute, Chelsea Bridge Road, S.W.1. ; the Clinical Research Association, Watergate House, Adelphi, London, W.C.2. ; and the Counties Public Health Laboratory, Queen Victoria Street, London, S.W 1

PROTECTIVE INOCULATIONS.

All the local health authorities of the County provide diphtheria antitoxin, which can be obtained by medical practitioners on application to the Medical Officer of Health for the District, a list of whom is given on page 10.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

The Maternity and Child Welfare statistics for the year show a large increase in the number of home visits and attendances at Infant Welfare Centres, a noteworthy feature being the increase in the number of attendances of infants under one year of age at the centres.

HEALTH VISITING.

During the year, 30,428 visits were paid by the Council's Health Visitors, of which 1,736 were primary visits and 11,371 following-up visits to children under 1 year of age; 16,520 were visits to children of 1 to 5 years of age, and 801 visits were paid to expectant mothers.

The Borough of Bedford Health Visitors paid 7,139 home visits.

The Borough of Luton Health Visitors paid 9,469 home visits, and in addition attended to 1,163 dressings, etc., at the Office.

INFANT WELFARE CENTRES.

There are now 12 Infant Welfare Centres provided or subsidised by the County Council, at each of which one of the Council's Health Visitors is an active worker.

The Centre at Stopsley, which was established in 1917, was transferred to the Borough of Luton on the 1st April, 1933, consequent upon the coming into operation of the South Bedfordshire Order, under which Stopsley became part of the Borough of Luton.

During the year a new Centre, was established at Stotfold. By kind permission of the Parish Council the meetings are held fortnightly in the Parish Hall.

The Council's Assistant Medical Officer (female) for Maternity and Child Welfare work attends each Centre with the exception of Woburn and Harrold, once a fortnight.

The following table shows the attendances at the various Centres in the Administrative County :—

Centre.	No. of Infants who attended the Centre for first time during year		No. of Infants attending during the year who at the end of the year were		Total attendances of infants		No. of Consultations with Council's Medical Officer.	No. of Sessions held during year.
	Under 1 year.	Between 1—5 years.	Under 1 year.	Between 1—5 years.	Under 1 year.	Between 1—5 years.		
Ampthill	33	7	31	97	486	693	671	44
Arlesey	43	6	31	98	357	394	658	25
Biggleswade	70	10	56	141	702	936	438	48
Dunstable	49	9	41	116	703	1420	570	47
Eaton Bray	15	4	14	32	219	225	423	23
Harrold	16	3	16	56	111	317	†—	12
Houghton Regis	25	5	19	43	375	589	466	51
Kempston	68	9	57	115	1015	462	506	51
Leighton Buzzard	52	26	42	144	1002	2106	709	47
†Stopsley	5	2	3	43	46	100	77	6
*Stotfold	29	39	17	51	180	198	187	14
Toddington	25	—	25	67	448	595	492	46
Woburn	4	1	5	16	37	200	†—	22
Total	434	121	357	1019	5681	8235	5197	436

† The Council's Medical Officer does not attend at these Centres.

† Transferred to Borough of Luton on 1st April, 1933.

* Has not been established for a complete year.

Dr. G. K. Bowes (Medical Officer of Health for the Borough of Bedford) has kindly supplied the following figures in respect of the **Borough of Bedford** Infant Welfare Centres :—

Total attendances during the year	... ..	8,265
No. of individual children attending Welfare Centre		683
No. of individual mothers attending Welfare Centre		554
Ante-Natal attendances	... ..	234

Dr. W. Archibald (Medical Officer of Health for the Borough of Luton) has kindly supplied the following figures in respect of the Infant Welfare Centres in the **Borough of Luton** :—

Total attendances during the year	... ..	14,546
No. of individual children attending Welfare Centre		1,466
Ante-Natal attendances	... ..	151

MILK GRANTS.

During the financial year, 1933-34, 8,404 pints of milk were supplied to infants and nursing mothers, at a total cost of £96 4s. 0d., as compared with £120 6s. 5d. in the previous twelve months. A special Sub-Committee investigates each case, and grants are discontinued when the child reaches the age of twelve months, or sooner in those instances where the financial circumstances of the parents have sufficiently improved to warrant its withdrawal.

As stated on page 29 wherever possible "Grade A" milk is given.

INSTITUTIONAL PROVISIONS.

During the year under review 56 cases were admitted to the Maternity Department of the County Hospital in accordance with the arrangement made by the County Council with that Institution.

Similar arrangements have been made by the Borough of Bedford, and during 1933, 11 cases from that Borough were admitted to the Hospital.

With regard to the Maternity Home at Luton, the Medical Officer of Health reports that 203 cases were admitted during 1933.

The Bedford and County Girls' Home provides accommodation for ten mothers and their infants. During 1933, 18 cases were admitted. This Institution is maintained by the St. Albans' Diocesan Girls' Aid Association, to which the County Council contributes an annual sum of £345 16s. 7d. An annual grant is also made by the Bedford Town Council.

PROFESSIONAL NURSING IN THE HOME.

The County is fairly well provided with these nursing services. The Bedfordshire County Nursing Association is doing excellent work. Expenses are met by voluntary contributions and subscriptions, together with a grant from the County Council which, for the year 1933-34, amounted to £485 15s. 0d. Small fees are charged to non-subscribers requiring the services of a nurse.

The Bedford District Nursing Association continued its good work during 1933. This Association provides skilled nursing for persons in their own homes. The minimum subscription for membership is 4/- per annum. The services of the Nurses are also available for non-members when a charge is made for each visit.

The Luton Nursing Association reports a year of successful service. The town is divided into six districts, and seven nurses are employed. During the year 1933, over sixteen thousand visits were made. Those families who desire to participate in the scheme contribute 6d. per month. This contribution covers the parents, aged dependents and children under 16. Those from 16 to 21 pay 3d. per month. Non-contributors pay a minimum charge of 1/- per visit.

Maternity Outfits.—Sterilised maternity outfits are provided by the County Council at cost price, and in necessitous cases free of charge.

THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE MIDWIVES ACTS.

The number of midwives who notified their intention to practise midwifery within the Administrative County was 115, as against 119 in the preceding year, 111 in 1931, 116 in 1930, 108 in 1929 and 99 in 1928.

INSPECTION OF MIDWIVES.

The following table shows the number of visits paid by the County Council Inspectors of Midwives during 1933, as compared with the last four years :—

	1929	1930	1931	1932	1933
Routine visits of inspection	201	191	229	234	281
Visits paid but midwives not at home	120	119	149	161	168
Special enquiry visits arising from notifications ...	500	430	397	349	458
Other special visits and enquiries	209	174	165	227	279
Total	1030	914	940	971	1186

During the year 1933 there was one case of failure to comply with the Rules of the Central Midwives Board.

The midwife concerned failed to carry out the necessary ante-natal supervision and to send for medical help on account of an abnormality which occurred during pregnancy, as required by Rule E.21 (2).

The number of visits paid by the **Bedford Borough** Council's Inspector of Midwives during the year ending 31st December 1933, was as follows :—

Routine visits of inspection and interviews at Office ...	49
Visits paid but Midwives not at home	11
Special enquiry visits arising from notifications ...	36
Other special visits and enquiries	19
Total	115

Notifications received from Midwives who notified their intention to practise in the Administrative County :—

	1929	1930	1931	1932	1933
Of intention to practise.....	108	116	111	119	115
Of change of address	7	6	11	13	12
Of change of name	—	—	2	6	1
Of sending for medical help	324	321	283	265	331
Of still-births occurring in their practice	32	25	28	18	26
Of deaths occurring in their practice	15	19	1	—	1
Of deaths occurring in their practice					
Of laying out the dead	10	12	6	10	17
Of liability to be a source of infection	11	18	15	17	33
Totals	507	517	471	458	544

Still-births—Of the 26 still-births occurring in Midwives' practices, 25 were legitimate and 1 illegitimate. Enquiries were made in respect of each case. Two of the mothers were living in caravans and did a little hawking, one was a milliner, and the remainder were engaged in home domestic work.

Puerperal Fever and Puerperal Pyrexia occurring in Midwives' practices, 1929, 15 ; 1930, 10 ; 1931, 5 ; 1932, 6 ; 1933, 8.

Ophthalmia—Inflammation or discharge from the eyes, however slight. Central Midwives' Board Rule E. 20 (5). During 1933 19 cases were reported.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum—Three cases were reported during 1933. In each case the vision was unimpaired.

Each midwife is supplied with a leaflet giving instructions as to the care of Infants' eyes, together with a supply of collosal argenticum for routine use. Prompt enquiries are made into every case of "inflamed eyes" occurring in a midwife's practice.

Leaflets upon Venereal Diseases are also supplied.

Each midwife who has given notice of her intention to practise in the Council's area has been asked to make a return of the number of cases she has attended during the year (*a*) as a midwife, and (*b*) as a maternity nurse (*i.e.*, acting under a medical practitioner).

Returns were made by 100 midwives, showing that during 1933 1,021 cases were attended by 79 midwives. In addition 477 cases were attended by 74 midwives acting in the capacity of maternity nurses.

The following statistics have been compiled from the returns made by the Midwives :-

	As Midwife (<i>i.e.</i> , acting alone)	As Maternity Nurse (<i>i.e.</i> , acting under a Doctor.)
Attended no cases	21	26
Attended less than 5	24	34
Attended between 5 and 10	22	21
Attended between 10 and 25	22	19
Attended between 25 and 50	8	—
Attended between 50 and 100	2	—
Attended between 100 and 200	1	—

Medical aid was sought in 32.4 per cent. of the midwives' cases.

During the year, 262 claims under Section 14 of the Midwives Act, 1918, were received from Doctors, amounting to £362 16s. 0d. The sum of £85 7s. 6d. was recovered from patients during the year.

On December 31st, 1933, there were in the administrative County 111 practising midwives. Of these, 40 were nurse-midwives working under Committees affiliated to the Bedfordshire County Nursing Association, and 3 were nurse-midwives employed by independent Local Nursing Associations; 1 was an independent midwife subsidised by the Council; 66 were trained midwives in private practice, and the remaining 1 was an untrained *bona-fide* midwife.

To assist the Bedfordshire County Nursing Association to secure and train sufficient suitable women for the work of nurse-midwife, the County Council makes an annual contribution proportionate to the number of midwives newly appointed by them within the year, whether to fill a vacancy or to serve in an area hitherto unprovided for.

During the year, three Bedfordshire candidates were trained in Midwifery, and three others were appointed. A grant is also made, based on the number of cases attended by the nurse-midwives employed by the Association to enable nurses to be maintained in those Districts, which, without some financial assistance, are unable to bear the cost involved.

The total grant made by the County Council to the Association in respect of the year 1933-34 was £485 15s. 0d.

The County Midwives' Association (of which your Medical Officer is the President) held several very successful meetings in 1933. At these meetings useful addresses were delivered by doctors and others having special experience in the work, to whom the Association is much indebted. The County Council makes a grant of 2 guineas per annum to the Association, which now has a membership of 117.

NURSING HOMES REGISTRATION ACT, 1927.

The County Council is the Local Supervising Authority under the Nursing Homes Registration Act, 1927 for the Administrative County, with the exception of the Borough of Bedford, and is therefore responsible for the registration and supervision of such Homes within their area.

Visits of inspection have been paid to all registered premises by one of the Council's Medical Officers, and visits of inspection to those premises which have been registered as Maternity Homes have also been made by the Inspectors of Midwives.

On 31st December, 1933, the number of premises registered in the Council's area was thirteen; as Maternity Homes 8, as Nursing Homes 5, providing a total accommodation of 19 beds for maternity cases and 33 for surgical and medical cases.

The number of registered premises in the **Borough of Bedford** was 6, providing accommodation for 20 maternity cases and 39 other cases.

INFANT LIFE PROTECTION.

The Children and Young Persons Act, 1932, which came into force on 1st January, 1933, amends the previous Act, and provides inter alia for the supervision of children being maintained for reward up to the age of 9 years, instead of 7 years as hitherto.

During the year 1933, 369 visits (70 of which were primary visits) were made to children under the age of nine who are being maintained for reward apart from their parents or relatives.

Generally speaking, the children were found to be well looked after, receiving both care and affection, being in fact, treated as members of the family. In no case was it found necessary to make an Order for the removal of the child.

The number of such children under the age of 9 living in the administrative area of the Council on the 31st December, 1933, was 85.

Dr. G. K. Bowes, the Medical Officer of Health for the **Borough of Bedford**, reports that 17 primary visits were made by his Health Visitors, and 136 periodical and special visits.

Dr. W. Archibald, the Medical Officer of Health for the **Borough of Luton**, reports that during the year 272 visits were made by his Health Visitors. The number of infants on the Register was 27.

THE MEDICAL INSPECTION OF SCHOOL CHILDREN.

The work of this branch of the Public Health Department is fully reported upon in my Annual Report on the School Medical Service, but in accordance with the custom of past years I include the following statistical information :—

Among the 7,971 elementary school children examined 1,123 were recommended to have treatment for some defect, including decayed teeth and verminous conditions—a smaller proportion than was found in 1932. Of the 766 scholars attending Secondary Schools examined by the Council's Medical Officers, 116 were found to require some form of medical treatment.

The defects found are classified in the following table :—

	<i>Elementary Schools</i>		<i>Secondary Schools</i>	
Defective Vision and Squint	in 268 children		in 55 children	
Eye Diseases	36	,,	3	,,
Chronic Tonsillitis only	14	,,	—	
Adenoids only	19	,,	1 child	
Chronic Tonsillitis & Adenoids, ..	144	,,	4 children	
Diseases of the Ear & Deafness ..	61	,,	2	,,
Diseases of the Skin... ..	20	,,	—	
Decayed Teeth	82	,,	85 children	
Verminous conditions	55	,,	2	,,
Malnutrition	29	,,	—	
Anaemia	23	,,	6 children	
Various forms of Tuberculosis ..	7	,,	—	
Heart Disease	55	,,	5 children	
Rickets, Spinal Curvature and other Deformities ..	105	,,	12	,,
Other Diseases	347	,,	49	,,
Totals	1265		224	

The percentage of defects treated (not including decayed teeth and verminous heads) in respect of Elementary School children was 74.8, and 54.9 in respect of scholars attending Secondary Schools.

The average heights and weights of the children at the various age groups as set out in the following table show a small increase on those of the previous year, with the exception of the " 5 year " age group.

Age Group.	Number weighed and Measured.		Average Height in Inches		Average Weight in Pounds.	
	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls
5	516	503	43.14	43.21	42.68	41.06
8	680	602	50.80	49.47	58.59	55.68
12	691	640	56.79	58.05	81.08	84.74

There are now fifteen schools in the County where mid-day meals are provided by the Education Committee at a charge of 1s. per head for five meals per week. During 1933 approximately 150,000 meals were served to 834 children attending these schools.

SCHOOL DENTISTRY.

Up to the present the Dental Scheme is confined to children attending the Council's Elementary Schools.

The following particulars are given of the work performed in 1933 :—

(1) Number of children who were :

(a) Inspected by the Dentist—

Routine Age Groups	{	5.....	1269	}	Total ...	15238
		6.....	1595			
		7.....	1627			
		8.....	1714			
		9.....	1761			
		10.....	1769			
		11.....	1764			
		12.....	1751			
		13.....	1772			
		14.....	216			

Specials..... 93

Grand Total 15331

(b) Found to require treatment 6928

(c) Actually treated..... 3064

(2) Half days devoted to { Inspection... 275 } Total ...763
 { Treatment... 488 }

(3) Attendances made by the children for treatment3157

(4) Fillings ... { Permanent Teeth ... 1149 } Total 1200
 { Temporary Teeth ... 51 }

(5) Extractions { Permanent Teeth ... 746 } Total...4869
 { Temporary Teeth ... 4123 }

(6) Administrations of general anaesthetics for extractions...nil.

(7) Other operations to permanent or temporary teeth
 (Scaling, etc.) 490

ORTHOPAEDICS.

Ascertainment and Treatment.

Every effort is made to discover persons suffering from crippling defects, both among the adult and child population of this County, and with this object in view the School Medical Officers, Tuberculosis Medical Officers, Medical Officer in charge of Infant Welfare Centres and Health Visitors notify me of all cases coming to their notice. Arrangements are then made for each case to be examined by an Orthopaedic Surgeon whose recommendations for treatment are communicated to the appropriate Committee of the Council.

Orthopaedic treatment frequently includes "in-patient" treatment and the provision of suitable apparatus for the patients,

ORTHOPAEDIC CASES

Committee.	National Insurance.											Education																	
	Surgical Tuberculosis											Other conditions																	
	Spine	Ribs	Shoulder	Elbow	Wrist	Fingers	Pelvis	Hip	Knee	Ankle	Foot	Spine	Hip	Knock-knee	Traumatic Ankle	Flat feet	Club feet	M. & C. W. Public Asst.	M. & C. W. Public Asst.	M. & C. W. Public Asst.	M. & C. W. Public Asst.	M. & C. W. Public Asst.	M. & C. W. Public Asst.	M. & C. W. Public Asst.	M. & C. W. Public Asst.	M. & C. W. Public Asst.	M. & C. W. Public Asst.		
1. Number of Cases on 1st January, 1933, under treatment or observation	48	5	3	3	9	5	2	47	12	7	5	1	1	1	10		1						3	1	4				
2. Number of cases dealt with for the first time during 1933, or who have returned after being transferred or "lost sight of"	6								3			1		2		1	1					4		1	2				
Total	54	5	3	3	9	5	2	47	15	7	5	2	1	1	12		2	1				7	1	5	2				
3. Number of cases transferred to other areas during 1933	1													1		1													
4. Number of cases who died during 1933		2						2			1																		
5. Number of cases who have removed and whose present whereabouts is unknown																													
Total	1	2						2			1			1		1													
6. Number of cases REMAINING under treatment or observation on 31st December, 1933	53	3	3	3	9	5	2	45	15	7	4	2	1	1	11		1	1				7	1	5	2				

the Council in necessitous cases bearing the whole or part of the cost involved.

I wish to take this opportunity of placing on record the very helpful co-operation which exists between this Department and the various Voluntary Hospitals in the County and in London, and in particular the Royal National Orthopaedic Hospital, London, in which Institution and its Country Branch a large amount of treatment is afforded to Bedfordshire cases.

The arrangements outlined above have proved very satisfactory, present-day facilities for travel making it possible, and in many cases convenient, for patients to attend at a London Hospital.

After-care.

Special attention is given to the following-up of all cases on the register. The patients receive periodical visits in their homes by the Council's Health Visitors, in addition to examinations by the Council's Medical Officers. When necessary arrangements are made for the patients to be re-examined by an Orthopaedic Surgeon. In necessitous cases the small cost involved in travelling is borne by the Council.

On 31st December, 1933, 224 cases were under treatment or supervision, an analysis of which is given below :—

STATISTICAL RETURN FOR THE YEAR 1333

Other Conditions.														Totals.			
Education M. & C. W. Public Asst.	Education M. & C. W. Public Asst.	Education M. & C. W. Public Asst.	Education M. & C. W. Public Asst.	Education M. & C. W. Public Asst.	Education M. & C. W. Public Asst.	Education M. & C. W. Public Asst.	Education M. & C. W. Public Asst.	Education M. & C. W. Public Asst.	Education M. & C. W. Public Asst.	Education M. & C. W. Public Asst.	Education M. & C. W. Public Asst.	Education M. & C. W. Public Asst.	Education M. & C. W. Public Asst.	Totals.			
Other Conditions.														Totals.			
Hammer tocs	Talipes Equinus	Birth Paralysis	Osteo Myelitis	Infantile Paralysis	Spastic Paralysis	Ischaemic Paralysis	Rickets	Chest de- formities (not cong.)	Congenital Deformity	Wry neck	Fractures	Amputa- tions	Miscella- neous	Totals.			
1	1			17	1	1	2	1	1		2	1	1	146	47	3	2
1	1 2	1	1	1	1		1		1	1	2 1			3	20	6	
2	2 2	1	1	18	2	1	3	1	2	1	4 1	1	1	155	67	9	2
														1	1	1	
					1									5	1		
					1									6	2	1	
2	2 2	1	1	18	1	1	3	1	2	1	4 1	1	1	149	65	8	2

Receiving treatment in Hospital	...	...	...	...	28
Under treatment or observation by Orthopaedic Surgeon or own medical attendant	...	...	...	...	63
Not in need of treatment but visited periodically :—					
Wearing appliance	...	...	...	...	35
Appliance not necessary	...	...	...	...	84
Treatment pending, or in need of treatment, but offer declined	...	...	...	...	14

PUBLIC VACCINATION.

The following Statistics for the whole County have been compiled from the Monthly Returns of the Vaccination Officers.

	VACCINATION DISTRICT									
	BEDFORD	BIGGLES- WADE	AMPTHILL	WOBURN	LUTON	DUN- STABLE	LEIGHTON BUZZARD	WYM- INGTON	EATON SOCON	TOTALS
No. of Cases outstanding on 31/12/32 ...	272	63	20	23	110	10	18	2	10	528
No. of children shown on Birth Sheets received during the year... ..	912	383	172	111	1020	150	144	12	35	2939
	— 1184	— 446	— 192	— 134	— 1130	— 160	— 162	— 14	— 45	— 3467
Successfully Vaccinated ...	139	44	16	24	58	5	11	2	14	313
Insusceptible of Vaccination	2	3	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	6
Died Unvaccinated ...	25	16	7	3	42	1	6	—	2	102
Declarations of Conscientious Objections ...	711	313	131	93	870	142	125	12	23	2420
	— 877	— 376	— 154	— 120	— 971	— 148	— 142	— 14	— 39	— 2841
No. of Cases outstanding on 31/12/33 ...	307	70	38	14	159	12	20	—	6	626

It will be observed from the foregoing table that during the twelve months ended 31st December, 1933, 2,939 births were entered on the Births Lists received by the Vaccination Officers, which, together with the number outstanding from the previous year (528) made a total of 3,467.

Of this number, 313 were successfully vaccinated, and declarations of conscientious objection were made in respect of 2,420 infants. Of the remainder 102 died unvaccinated; 6 were found to be insusceptible of vaccination; and 626 had either left the County or were otherwise outstanding at the end of the year.

In order to obtain as accurate a figure as possible to represent the percentage of children vaccinated in the County, the records in respect of the births returned for the previous twelve months have been examined. From 1st January, 1932 to 31st December, 1932, 3,076 births were returned. By the end of January, 1934, these births had been accounted for as follows :—

Successfully vaccinated	...	...	...	...	325
Insusceptible of vaccination	...	...	...	...	8
Number in respect of whom Declarations of conscientious objection were made	...	...	...	...	2,522
Died unvaccinated	...	...	...	...	106
Vaccination postponed	...	...	...	...	9
Cases outstanding	...	...	...	...	106
					<hr/> 3,076 <hr/>

It will therefore be seen that of the births dealt with only 11.5 % were vaccinated, whilst the remaining 88.5 % refused vaccination and made the statutory declaration.

HOSPITALS FOR INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

The Report of the County Medical Officer of Health giving full details of the existing provision of Hospital accommodation for Infectious diseases and recommendations in accordance with Section 63 of the Local Government Act, 1929, is being considered by the special Sub-Committee appointed for that purpose. A Conference has been held with representatives of the Local Authorities in the County and it is likely that the recommendations set out in the Report will be found to be generally acceptable.

PUBLIC ASSISTANCE INSTITUTIONS

The alterations at the Ampthill Institution, including the necessary equipment of two new wards, have been completed and at the time of writing this Report, arrangements were being made to transfer twenty-two male patients from the Luton Institution to Ampthill. This will alleviate to some extent the seasonal

overcrowding in the Luton Infirmary. A scheme for the re-construction and extension of the Luton Public Assistance Institution has been prepared and is receiving the consideration of the Committee concerned.

The following table gives brief particulars of the five Institutions in Bedfordshire :—

Name and Situation	Area Served		No. of Sick Wards	Beds available for sick, maternity, and mental cases at 31/12/33			
	Acreage	Pop. acc. to 1931 Census		Men	Women	Children under 16	Total
Ampthill Public Assistance Institution Ampthill	69,992	22,151	6	26	26	2	54
Bedford Public Assistance Institution (St. Peters Hospital), Kimbolton Rd., Bedford...	118,864	70,298	12	46	45	9	100
Biggleswade Public Assistance Institution Biggleswade ...	58,275	29,946	9	23	37	2	62
Luton Public Assistance Institution, 11a, Dunstable Rd., Luton ...	39,779	87,164	24	79	109	13	201
Leighton Buzzard Public Assistance Institution, Leighton Buzzard ...	16,032	10,966	8	25	30	—	55
Total	302,942	220,525	59	199	247	26	472

Particulars of admissions, discharges, etc., during the year are set out below :—

Name of Institution.	Patients in on 1/1/33.	Admissions during the year (including infants born in the Institution)	Deaths.	Discharges.	Patients remaining in on 31/12/33.
Ampthill	53	72	23	60	42
Bedford	70	726	152	570	74
Biggleswade	42	110	26	86	40
Luton	152	515	128	391	148
Leighton Buzzard...	42	29	14	30	27
Total	359	1452	343	1137	331

The table printed on the opposite page gives information with regard to the classification of the patients treated during 1933.

DISEASE GROUP.		AMPTHILL.				BEDFORD.				BIGGLES- WADE.				LUTON.				LEIGHTON BUZZARD.				TOTALS.			
		CHILD- REN		MEN AND WOMEN		CHILD- REN		MEN AND WOMEN		CHILD- REN		MEN AND WOMEN		CHILD- REN		MEN AND WOMEN		CHILD- REN		MEN AND WOMEN		CHILD- REN		MEN AND WOMEN	
		Discharged.	Died.	Discharged.	Died.	Discharged.	Died.	Discharged.	Died.	Discharged.	Died.	Discharged.	Died.	Discharged.	Died.	Discharged.	Died.	Discharged.	Died.	Discharged.	Died.	Discharged.	Died.	Discharged.	Died.
		Group																							
A	Acute infectious disease...	—	—	1	—	10	3	12	8	1	—	8	—	—	—	5	4	—	—	—	—	19	3	12	—
B	Influenza	—	—	1	—	1	—	22	2	3	—	15	—	—	—	35	9	—	—	—	—	16	—	12	—
C	Tuberculosis ;— (i.) Pulmonary (ii.) Non-Pulmonary	—	—	—	1	—	—	5	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	4	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	—
D	Malignant disease...	—	—	—	6	—	—	2	24	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
E	Rheumatism :— (i.) Acute rheumatism (rheumatic fever) together with sub-acute rheumatism and chorea (ii.) Non-articular " manifestations of so-called " rheumatism " (muscular rheumatism, fibrositis, lumbago and sciatica) (iii.) Chronic arthritis	—	—	—	—	2	—	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—
F	Veneral disease ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	4	1	1	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	11	1
G	Puerperal pyrexia...	—	—	—	—	1	—	4	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	8	3
H	Puerperal fever :— (i.) Women confined in the hospital (ii.) Admitted from outside	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	8	—
I	Other diseases and accidents connected with pregnancy and child-birth	—	—	—	—	—	1	11	1	4	—	—	—	—	—	6	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	7	1
J	Mental diseases :— (i.) Senile dementia (ii.) Other	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	2
K	Senile decay ...	—	—	—	—	1	—	13	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	62	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	6	5
L	Accidental injury and violence...	—	—	—	1	—	—	8	24	10	—	3	—	—	—	11	23	—	—	—	—	—	—	83	1
M	In respect of cases not included above.	—	—	—	—	—	—	33	10	—	—	—	—	—	—	28	2	—	—	—	3	—	—	73	13
N	Diseases of the nervous system and sense organs ...	—	—	5	2	1	—	17	3	7	—	3	—	—	—	23	18	—	—	—	4	—	—	52	23
O	" " respiratory system ...	—	—	7	—	7	2	36	12	7	—	6	—	—	—	30	8	—	—	—	19	—	—	81	22
P	" " circulatory system ...	—	—	3	1	1	1	35	31	2	—	—	—	—	—	18	28	—	—	—	—	—	—	58	72
Q	" " digestive system ...	—	—	8	—	5	—	57	4	3	—	—	—	—	9	1	—	—	—	—	5	—	—	79	6
R	" " genito-urinary system ...	—	—	4	—	5	—	28	9	1	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	5	—	—	38	11
S	" " skin ...	—	—	4	—	5	—	38	5	5	—	5	—	—	1	10	—	—	—	—	12	—	—	57	7
T	Other diseases ...	—	—	1	1	8	—	10	1	10	—	15	—	—	—	34	1	—	—	—	29	—	—	61	5
U	Mothers and infants discharged from maternity wards and not included in above figures :— (i.) Mothers ... (ii.) Infants ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	77	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	14	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	91	—
U	Any persons not falling under any of the above headings	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS		8	52	23	118	7	452	145	18	68	26	71	2	320	126	30	14	215	9	922	334				

VOLUNTARY HOSPITALS.

The most noteworthy feature with regard to the Voluntary Hospitals in the County during the year was the opening in December, 1933, of the new X-Ray and Massage Department at the Bedford County Hospital.

The new block is situate between the Men's and Women's Pavilions and contains a radiographic room, therapy room, dark room, consultant's room, dressing rooms for men and women, and waiting room. At the end of the block is a spacious electro-therapeutic-massage room. Apparatus costing over £2,000 has been installed.

AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

For the removal of cases of infectious disease (other than smallpox) there is a Motor Ambulance attached to each of the seven isolation hospitals within the County, with the exception of Leighton Buzzard, where a horse-drawn cab is provided.

In addition, horse-drawn cabs are kept at the Isolation Hospitals at Luton, Steppingley and Milton Ernest for cases of smallpox.

The County Council's Motor Ambulance for the removal of cases of Tuberculosis is stationed at the County Sanatorium at Mogerhanger Park.

The following particulars with regard to Ambulance provisions for accident and non-infectious cases are included in this Report as a ready means of reference for Medical Officers and others concerned :—

MOTOR AMBULANCES.

<i>Owned by :—</i>	<i>Stationed at :—</i>
Bedford Borough Police ... (Telephone Bedford 3013)	Messrs. Murkett's Garage The Embankment, Bedford
Luton Corporation ... (Telephone : Luton 2210 and 2211).	Police Station, Luton
British Red Cross Society ... (Telephone : Dunstable 96)	Messrs. Waterlow's Works, High Street North, Dunstable
County Constabulary ... (Telephone : Biggleswade 26)	Court House, Saffron Road, Biggleswade
*Mr. Frank R. Webb ... (Telephone : Leighton Buzzard 100)	High Street Garage Leighton Buzzard
*London Brick Co. & Forders, Ltd. (Telephone : Kempston 311)	Brickworks, Stewartby, near Bedford.

*The last two belong to private firms and are available for the use of the public by arrangement with the owners.

DISTRICT MEDICAL OFFICERS OF HEALTH.

Section 58 of the Local Government Act, 1929, imposes upon the County Council the duty of formulating arrangements for securing, whether by means of a combination of Districts or otherwise, that every Medical Officer of Health subsequently appointed for a District shall be restricted by the terms of his employment from engaging in private practice as a Medical Practitioner.

Since the passing of this Act, vacancies in the post of Medical Officer of Health have occurred in three Local Sanitary Areas. In each instance the post has been filled, on the recommendation of the County Council, by a medical practitioner holding the Diploma of Public Health who is not engaged in private practice, but devotes the whole of his time to the Public Health Service in the County.

The present position is as follows :—

The Borough of Bedford employs one whole-time Medical Officer of Health.

The Borough of Luton employs two whole-time Medical Officers of Health.

The Borough of Dunstable employs one part-time Medical Officer of Health, who possesses the Diploma of Public Health, but is engaged in private practice.

The Leighton Buzzard Urban District Council employs one part-time Medical Officer of Health who is engaged in private practice.

As will be seen from the list of District Medical Officers printed on Page 10 of this Report, the remaining Sanitary Areas in the County are served by two Medical Officers, each of whom possesses the Diploma of Public Health, and devotes the whole of his time to Public Health work.

Owing to the fact that the North Bedfordshire Review Order, 1934, did not come into force until 1st April, 1934, it was not possible, during the year under review, to submit a County Scheme in accordance with Section 58 of the Local Government Act, 1929

PUBLIC ASSISTANCE MEDICAL DOMICILIARY TREATMENT.

A list of the District Medical Officers and their Districts will be found on pages 8 and 9 of this Report.

In accordance with the instructions of the Public Assistance Committee a special Report was submitted by me to that Committee in October, 1933, giving details of the existing arrangements for administering medical out-relief.

BLIND WELFARE.

No alterations were made in the arrangements for the administration of the Blind Persons Act during the year. The certificated Home Teachers who are engaged in visiting the blind in their own homes, made 6,673 visits during the year. In addition many Voluntary Helpers throughout the County render invaluable service in many ways. The Home Teachers give help and advice and also lessons in reading from Braille, handicraft work such as hand and machine knitting, rug making, rush and cane chair seating, mat making, basket making and pastime occupations. Seven of the blind persons are registered as Home Workers.

Register of Blind Persons.

A Register is kept at the Shire Hall of all blind persons in the County.

On March 31st, 1933, there were 393 registered blind persons residing in the County.

During the year the following cases were removed from the Register :—

Sight improved after operation.....	6
Left County	5
Died	26
	—
	37
	—

and 46 cases were added to the Register.

The number of cases on the Register* on 31st March, 1934, was therefore 402.

The ages and sexes of these 402 blind persons are as follows :—

					Males.	Females.
0— 4	...	...	...	...	1	—
5—15	...	...	...	...	7	1
16—20	...	...	...	...	5	2
21—29	...	...	...	...	5	4
30—39	...	...	...	...	20	9
40—49	...	...	...	...	29	18
50—59	...	...	...	...	21	32
60—69	...	...	...	...	42	64
70 and over	...	...	...	...	52	90
Total					182	220

The form of medical certificate prepared by the Minister of Health is now used by the Ophthalmic Surgeons when reporting on new cases.

Workshops for the Blind.

There are Workshops for the Blind, at the premises of the South Bedfordshire Society at Luton, where nine men and three women are regularly employed in basket making, bee-skep making, rush and cane seating, making door mats and various kinds of woollen goods. One blind man is receiving training in brush-making at Leatherhead, and one is receiving training in Basket-work at Norwich.

Unemployable Blind.

The Voluntary Societies have, during the year under review, considered the circumstances of all unemployable blind persons and where necessary have made grants in money or kind to meet the needs of each particular case as far as possible. Since the 1st October, 1931, all the blind persons (except those in Institutions) which hitherto had received assistance through the various Guardians Committees, have been dealt with by the Voluntary Societies.

The numbers on the register include 18 blind persons in Institutions in the County.

Books for the Blind.

These are supplied on loan by the National Library for the Blind and £1 per head per annum is paid by the Voluntary Societies to that Institution for each person making use of such books.

Social Events, etc.

Besides the Annual Summer Outings, Social gatherings such as reading circles, teas, etc., have been arranged and wireless sets have been supplied. White sticks for the use of the blind have also been presented.

Inspection.

Prior to the coming into operation of the Local Government Act, 1929, the work of the Societies was inspected by the Ministry of Health. This duty now falls upon the Blind Persons Act Committee of the County Council who have requested their Chairman to make the necessary periodical inspections.

MENTAL TREATMENT ACT, 1930.

One of the main objects of this Act is the early diagnosis and the treatment of Mental Disease in its incipient stage. County Councils are empowered to establish out-patient clinics to assist in this work. It also gives them power to admit into their Mental Hospitals voluntary patients seeking treatment, and it enables temporary patients to be treated for a period (not exceeding 12 months) on the recommendation of two Medical men without the intervention of any judicial authority.

This Act came into operation on the 1st January, 1931. The question of the provision of an out-patient Clinic is under consideration.

MENTAL DEFICIENCY ACTS, 1913-1927.

As in former years, all cases throughout the County coming to my notice as suspected to be suffering from Mental Deficiency have been examined, including children under five years of age, with a view to determining whether or not they were mentally defective.

Mentally defective children of school age were reported to the Education Committee, and the appropriate action taken so far as is possible under the present circumstances.

Adult defectives and defectives under school age were dealt with by the Mental Deficiency Acts Committee.

The numbers of defectives in Institutions or under guardianship on 31st December, 1933, were :—

		Males	Females	Total
Certified Institutions	...	38	54	92
State Institutions	...	13	7	20
Under Guardianship	...	2	4	6
		—	—	—
Totals	... ..	53	65	118.
		—	—	—

BROMHAM HOUSE COLONY

The Bedfordshire and Northamptonshire Joint Board for the Mentally Defective are proceeding with plans, etc., for the erection of a permanent Colony at Bromham House. At the present time the existing House is being used for the accommodation of 24 high grade male mentally defectives, ten of these patients being Bedfordshire cases.

ADOPTIVE ACTS, BYE-LAWS AND REGULATIONS.

The Infectious Diseases (Prevention) Act, 1890, and the Public Health Acts (Amendment) Act, 1890, both optional, have been generally adopted by the Local Authorities throughout the County.

The following Bye-Laws or Regulations are also generally in force :—Slaughter-houses, Offensive Trades, Common Lodging-houses, Removal of House Refuse, Cleansing of Privies, etc., Prevention of Nuisances, Keeping of Animals, New Streets and Buildings (Structure and Drainage), Cleansing of Footways, Dairies, Cowsheds and Milk-shops.

MILK AND DAIRIES (Consolidation) ACT, 1915.

MILK AND DAIRIES ORDER, 1926.

There was no alteration during 1933 in the procedure, which has been fully detailed in previous Reports, for carrying out the provisions of the above Act and Order.

During the year 83 samples of milk were taken from all parts of the County, and submitted for bacteriological examination, all of which proved to be free from tubercle bacilli.

There were five instances in which it was considered advisable for an inspection of the herd to be made by the Council's Veterinary Surgeon. The cows in the herd were carefully examined and samples of milk tested but all the animals proved to be healthy.

The County Register contains the names of 732 registered Cowkeepers. Sanitary Authorities are required to notify the County Council of all alterations made in their Register of Cowkeepers so that the Central Register may be kept up-to-date. From the information in my Office it has been ascertained that there are approximately eleven thousand five hundred milch cows in the County.

TUBERCULOSIS ORDER, 1925.

132 tuberculous cows were slaughtered during the year under the Tuberculosis Order of 1925 as compared with 126 in 1932.

MILK (Special Designation) ORDER, 1923.

Five new licences for the production and sale of "Grade A" milk within the County were issued during 1933, and seven existing Licences were renewed.

The farm premises of persons holding licences are inspected periodically and show that the required high standard of cleanliness has in each case been maintained.

There is one Farm in the County producing and selling "Certified" and "Grade A" (Tuberculin Tested) Milk; there are two Farms producing and selling "Grade A" (Tuberculin Tested) Milk; and one other Farm producing and selling "Certified" Milk. These Licences are granted by the Ministry of Health.

BETTER MILK AND CLEAN MILKING COMPETITIONS, 1933.

Mr. J. W. Dallas, M.Sc., the County Agricultural Organiser, reports as follows :—

"The third Better Milk Competition for dairy farmers in Bedfordshire, organised by the Agricultural Education Sub-Committee was, like the first and second competitions, of four months duration and extended from the 1st January to the 30th April, 1933.

Ten herds competed with two hundred and fifty cows in milk and twenty-six persons engaged in milking. In the Clean Milking Competition for milkers, fourteen participated. The judging of conditions on the farms and the milkers was carried out by the County Agricultural Organiser and the Dairying Inspector of the Ministry of Agriculture, and Certificates of Merit were awarded to nine of the competing farms in the Better Milk Competition and to thirteen of the milkers in the Clean Milking Competition.

Competitors in the Better Milk Competition submitted four samples of milk for examination and two surprise samples were taken by the milk recorders of the Bedfordshire Milk Recording Society and the points awarded on the examination of these sample were taken into consideration in the awarding of the certificates. As in the previous year, these samples showed a very high standard of cleanliness, indicating the importance of methods during milking and in the cleansing of utensils.

Sixty-five per cent of the samples were of the bacterial standards of "Certified" Milk and fifteen per cent attained the standards of "Grade A"; that is, eighty per cent were of designated (graded) standards. Fifty-one per cent of the samples showed no traces of coliform contamination and two-thirds of the samples

did not exceed the standard specified in this respect for "Certified" milk. The average keeping quality was eighty-three hours, from the time of milking, the samples attaining "Certified" standard averaging eighty-eight hours, those attaining "Grade A" standard averaging seventy-seven hours and those of non-designated standard averaging seventy-four hours.

Keen interest was shewn by competitors both in the Better Milk and Clean Milking Competitions and the results from the point of view of the cleanliness of the milk produced, were highly satisfactory.

County Accredited Milk Producers' Scheme.

Competitors who had been awarded prizes or certificates in the three annual Better Milk Competitions were this year allowed the opportunity of participating in a County Accredited Milk Producers Scheme, which Scheme involved the submission of one sample per month, either by the producer, or taken on a surprise visit by a recorder of the Milk Recording Society. Competitors are allowed to participate in this scheme as long as their samples maintain a bacterial standard slightly lower than that of "Grade A" milk. It seems likely, however, that this County scheme will be superseded by a National Scheme in which increased payments may be made to such producers."

THE PUBLIC HEALTH (PRESERVATIVES, ETC., IN FOOD) REGULATIONS, 1925—1927.

By these Regulations a definite restriction has been placed on the use of preservatives in certain articles of food. No preservative is to be added to milk and cream in any case.

Nineteen samples of Cream were submitted for analysis during the year 1933. All the samples were found to be genuine. Of these samples two were taken in the Borough of Bedford and thirteen in the Borough of Luton.

THE PUBLIC HEALTH (DRIED MILK) REGULATIONS, 1923-1927.

Three samples were examined and found to comply with the requirements of the Regulations.

THE PUBLIC HEALTH (CONDENSED MILK) REGULATIONS, 1923-1927.

Eighteen samples were examined, all of which were found to comply with the requirements of the Regulations.

ARTIFICIAL CREAM ACT, 1929

There is one person registered for the manufacture and sale of artificial cream in the County. The premises are inspected periodically and samples of the cream taken and submitted to analysis. The samples taken during 1933 were found to be genuine.

CONDENSED SKIMMED MILK.

In my previous Annual Report attention was drawn to the fact that many people fail to realise that condensed skimmed milk is of very much lower nutritional value than new milk and cannot, therefore, be regarded as a satisfactory substitute. In order again to emphasize this important matter I wish to draw attention to the fact that condensed skimmed milk is milk which has been robbed of one of its most important constituents by the extraction of all fat (cream).

Not only is it unfit for babies which fact must, by law, be clearly stated on the label, but it also fails to satisfy the needs of growing children.

It has been proved by experiment that new milk is much superior in its growth-producing properties to skimmed milk, even when other forms of fat are included in the diet.

By buying new milk the public will not only be obtaining an article of far greater nutrient value than machine-skimmed condensed milk, but will also be assisting one of the most important agricultural industries in this Country.

FOOD INSPECTION.

The Reports of the District Medical Officers of Health record details of the inspection of meat and other foods, shops, stalls, slaughter-houses and other premises in which food is prepared.

In the Borough of Luton 9 tons 18 cwts. 3 qrs. 7 lbs. of unsound food was condemned and destroyed, and in the Borough of Bedford 3 tons 1 cwt. 1 qr. 20 lbs. of unsound food was destroyed.

FOOD AND DRUGS.

The following table is a summary of the number, nature, and results of analysis of the samples submitted to the County Analyst during 1933.

Article Submitted for Analysis.	No. of Genuine Samples (612).	No. of Adulterated Samples (24).	Remarks as to Adulteration.
Ammoniated tincture of Quinine ...	2		
Arrowroot... ..	4		
Bacon	9		
Bacon (Cooked) ...	1		
Baking Powder ...	4		
Beef (Corned) ...	2		
Beef (Pressed) ...	2		
Bicarbonate of Soda	1		
Bile Beans	1		
Biscuits	6		
Biscuits (Chocolate)	1		
Black Pudding ...	1		
Blanc Mange Powder	1		
Boracic Powder ...	1		
Bovril	1		
Bread	2		
Butter	35		
Cake	4		
Cakeoma	3		
Camphorated Oil	2		
Castor Oil	2		
Cheese	9		
Citrate of Magnesia	1		
Cocoa	10		
Cod Liver Oil ...	2		
Coffee	6		
Coffee and Chicory	4		
Cornflour	3		
Cough Tablets ...	1		
Cream (Canned) ...	4		
Cremo Oats	2		
Currants	12		
Custard Powder ...	5		
Dill Water	1		
Egg Substitute ...	2		
Eucalyptus	3		
Fish Paste	4		
Flour	7		
Flour (Self-Raising)	5		
Fondine	1		
Force	1		
French Syrup ...	1		
Fruit (Dried) ...	1		
Fruit Salad (Canned)	1		
Germatoxy	1		
Ginger (Ground)...	2		
Glycerine	3		
Grape Nuts	1		
Ham	2		

TABLE OF SUMMARY.—*continued.*

Article Submitted for Analysis.	No. of Genuine Samples (612)	No. of Adulter- ated Samples. (24)	Remarks as to Adulteration.
Ham (Cooked) ...	1		
Honey ...	4		
Horse Raddish			
Cream ...	1		
Icefoam Crystals...	1		
Jam ...	16		
Jelly ...	1		
Lactoran ...	1		
Lard ...	6		
Lemon Curd ...	3		
Lemonade Crystals	2		
Liquorice Powder (Compound) ...	2		
Lung Syrup ...	1		
Margarine ...	9		
Marmalade ...	6		
Marmite ...	1		
Meat Paste ...	1		
Mentholatum ...	1		
Milk ...	217		
		1	Fat abstracted 5.0%. Vendor cautioned.
		1	Fat abstracted 6.6%. Vendor cautioned.
		1	Water added 3.7%. No action. Milk fat good.
		1	Water added 2.8%. No action. Milk fat good.
		1	Water added 7.2%. No action. Milk fat good.
		1	Water added 4.7%. No action. Milk fat good.
		1	Fat abstracted 4.3%. Vendor cautioned.
		1	Fat abstracted 4.0%. Vendor cautioned.
		1	Fat abstracted 4.0%. Vendor cautioned.
		1	Fat abstracted 2.0%. Vendor cautioned.
		1	Fat abstracted 4.0%. Vendor cautioned.
		1	Fat abstracted 6.0%. Vendor cautioned.
		1	Fat abstracted 5.0%. Vendor cautioned.
		1	Fat abstracted 6.6%. Vendor cautioned.
		1	Fat abstracted 6.6%. Vendor cautioned.
		1	Fat abstracted 13.0%. Fined £2 2s. and costs £3 18s. 0d.
		1	Fat abstracted 4.0%. Vendor cautioned.

TABLE OF SUMMARY.—*continued.*

Article Submitted for Analysis.	No. of Genuine Samples (612).	No. of Adulterated Samples (24).	Remarks as to adulteration.
Milk (<i>continued</i>)		1	Fat abstracted 3.3%. Vendor cautioned.
		1	Water added 4.4%.*
		1	Water added 6.4%.*
		1	Water added 2.1%.*
			* These samples were taken at the place of delivery at the request of the Sampling Officer, Luton, and Certificates handed over to him.
		1	Fat abstracted 6.6%. Vendor cautioned.
		1	Water added 4.7%. Vendor cautioned.
Milk (Condensed full cream) ...	4		
Milk (Condensed skimmed sweetened) ...	6		
Milk (Malted) ...	3		
Milk of Magnesia	1		
Mincemeat ...	4		
Mint (Dried) ...	2		
Mustard (Compound)	2		
Mustard (Prepared)	2		
Ovaltine ...	1		
Paraffin (Liquid)	1		
Peas (Canned) ...	3		
Peel (Mixed) ...	2		
Pepper ...	12		
Phos. ...	1		
Piccalilli ...	1		
Pickles ...	5		
Pineapple (Canned)	1		
Polony ...	1		
Pork Pie ...	2		
Prunes ...	1		
Raisins ...	7		
Rice ...	4		
Rice (Flaked) ...	4		
Rice (Ground) ...	3		
Salad Cream ...	2		
Salmon (Canned)	4		
Salt of Celery ...	1		
Salt (Health) ...	1		
Salt (Table) ...	1		
Sauce ...	2		
Sausages ...	8		
Sausages (Cooked)	3		
Scones ...	1		
Scotts Emulsion ...	1		
Semolina ...	1		
Senna Pods ...	1		
Spice (Mixed) ...	1		

TABLE OF SUMMARY.—*continued.*

Articles Submitted for Analysis.	Number of Genuine Samples (612)	No. of Adulterated Samples (24).	Remarks as to adulteration.
Suet (Shredded) ...	7		
Sugar ...	8		
Sulphur Tablets ...	1		
Sultanas ...	6		
Sweets ...	2		
Swiss Roll ...	1		
Syrup of Figs ...	2		
Syrup of Rhubarb	1		
Tapioca ...	1		
Tapioca (Flaked)	1		
Tea ...	9		
Thyme (Dried) ...	1		
Trex ...	1		
Vinegar ...	13		
		1	Sulphur dioxide to the extent of 40 parts per million. Vendor cautioned.
Waverley Oats ...	1		
Wine Essence ...	1		
Witch Hazel ...	1		
Yeast-Vite ...	1		

Mr. J. Kear Colwell, F.I.C., the County Analyst, reports as follows :—

“ During the year 1933, 636 samples were submitted to me for analysis in accordance with the provisions of the Food and Drugs (Adulteration) Act, 555 having been purchased with the usual formalities and 81 obtained informally. In the previous year (1932), the total number of samples examined was 601.

Of the 636 samples submitted during the year under review, 24 (3.8 per cent) proved to be adulterated and were certified accordingly. In the previous year (1932), 4.3 per cent of the samples were found to be “ not of the nature, substance and quality of the articles demanded,” and were certified to be adulterated.

All the 24 samples certified to be adulterated during the year 1933 were purchased with the usual formalities.

The articles adulterated were samples of Milk and Vinegar.

Two hundred and forty (240) samples of Milk were examined and twenty-three (9.5 per cent) were found to be adulterated as either the fat or non-fatty solids fell below the rather modest requirements of the Board of Agriculture for those constituents in genuine Milk of the poorest quality.

Eight of the adulterated samples of Milk had been diluted with water, the quantity added being at least 2.1, 2.8, 3.7, 4.4, 4.7, 4.7, 6.4, 7.2 per cent respectively, and from the remaining fifteen fat had been abstracted, the deficiency in that important ingredient varying from at least 2.0 to at least 13.0 per cent. The Board of Agriculture limits for fat are 3.0 per cent and for

non-fatty solids 8.5 per cent. That these figures must be regarded as being undoubtedly low is obvious when it is remembered that the average composition of the genuine Milk supplied in all parts of the County over a number of years is Fat 3.6 per cent and non-fatty solids 8.8. per cent. The average composition of the 217 samples returned as genuine during 1933 was Fat 3.63 per cent and Non-fatty solids 8.78 per cent. It may be of interest to note that with improved methods of examination, such as the determination of the freezing point, it is now possible to speak with far more certainty than formerly of the adulteration of Milk by the addition of water. Milk as it comes from the cow freezes at a temperature of about -0.55° centigrade, this figure having been found to be practically constant, and the addition of water raises the temperature at which the mixture freezes in proportion to the quantity of water added.

DRIED MINT. It may be interesting to mention the samples of dried mint all of which proved to be genuine. The samples were obtained owing to the fact that it had been found that certain imported dried mint had been adulterated with other leaves, in particular those of the *Ailanthus* or Tree of Heaven, but its timely detection has practically put a stop to the admixture of these leaves which appears to have taken place on the Continent but not in this Country.

VINEGAR. The sample of Vinegar certified to be adulterated contained an amount of sulphate preservative equal to forty (40) parts per million of Sulphur di-oxide (SO_2).

STANDARDS FOR CREAM, CHEESE AND OTHER FOOD PRODUCTS. Once again it is necessary to refer to the urgent need of some definite standards for food products. A committee has been appointed with reference to this subject and has already heard certain evidence, but I do not think the question can be dealt with efficiently by a large body sitting for a comparatively short time, and feel that the appointment of a small permanent Committee or Board of Reference which might consider standards, or any necessary alteration of standards, from time to time, as occasion arose, with power to make recommendations or amendments, would be the best way of dealing with all these matters. The great advances which have been made in the scientific investigation of the properties and composition of many food stuffs have made new standards imperative and such a body should be in a position to consider the new methods, etc., of examination, which are constantly being evolved, and to prescribe the appropriate value to be attached to them in determining the purity, or otherwise, of articles of food."

THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE FOOD AND DRUGS ACTS IN THE BOROUGH OF BEDFORD.

During the year, 88 samples were taken, 36 being formal samples, and 52 informal samples, the whole of which were submitted to and reported on by the Public Analyst.

Of this number, 11 were found not to be genuine, the adulterated samples being 9 formal samples and 2 informal samples of milk.

In addition, 403 samples of milk were obtained informally for examination in the Laboratory at the Town Hall. Of these, 70 were found to be below the standard and appropriate action was taken in each case.

THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE FOOD AND DRUGS ACTS IN THE BOROUGH OF LUTON.

During the year, 310 samples were taken, 109 being formal samples, and 201 informal samples, the whole of which were submitted to and reported on by the Public Analyst.

Of this number, 23 were found not to be genuine. Eleven of these were milk. In seven of these cases proceedings were instituted, and in five cases convictions were obtained.

In one case, in which fat had been extracted to the extent of 41%, the vendor was prosecuted and fined £10 and 13/- costs.

MATTERS OF GENERAL SANITATION.

WATER SUPPLIES.

Financial strictures having been relaxed, the Council resumed their investigations on water supplies with a view to supplying every Village in the County at present in need of this provision with an adequate and wholesome supply of water.

The trial Borehole in the vicinity of Toddington was completed, and Messrs. Binnie, Deacon and Gourley, the Consulting Engineers engaged by the Council, reported that :—

“ From the result of the pumping test, we are of opinion that a sufficient quantity of water to supply the Rural Area throughout the County can be obtained from a Well designed on similar lines to that at Biggleswade.”

Mr. J. Kear Colwell, the County Analyst, who examined samples of water from this trial borehole, gave us his opinion that “ *an excellent supply should be assured as far as quality is concerned.* ”

The Water Committee appointed by the Council are now engaged in contrasting the County Scheme prepared by the Consulting Engineers, with the individual Schemes prepared by the Rural District Councils, and Schemes for supplying each Rural District from one or other of the Water Undertakings in the County.

I earnestly hope that it may be found possible to proceed with a scheme forthwith. It is a matter of common agreement that a pure and sufficient supply of water should be available to all the inhabitants of this County at the earliest possible moment. Until this provision is secured, the risk of disease occurring, particularly in times of drought, is in some areas very considerable. It must also be borne in mind that the dearth and even absence of any kind of water in some Parishes gives added danger in case of an outbreak of fire.

Pending the completion of the County Scheme of Water Supply, the various Local Authorities in this County have refrained from proceeding with local schemes of any magnitude.

The Medical Officer for the **Bedford Urban District** reports that :—

“ Following an application from the Bedford Rural District Council, from which it appeared that there was an inadequate water supply in New Harrowden, owing to the drought, arrangements were made to extend the Borough water mains to this Village. This work has now been completed.”

The Medical Officer for the **Kempston Urban District** reports that :—

“ 2,000 feet of 3” cast iron pipes have been added to the Council’s Water Main. Also a Water Tower has been erected at the Council’s Farrer Street premises for the purpose of stabilising the pressure within the area.”

The Medical Officer for the **Luton Urban District** reports that :—

“ The Luton Water Company has opened a new well at Runley Wood and this will provide an adequate supply of water for the extended Town.”

The Medical Officer for the **Amptill Rural District** reports that :—

“ The main has been extended with 380 yards of 3 inch cast iron pipe in Station Road, Lower Stondon, Shillington. A further extension to Lower Stondon School is being considered.

New connections have been made for fourteen houses, a School and a Chapel at Haynes, and ten houses at Lower Stondon, Shillington.

A new standpipe has been provided at Sheeptic End, Lidlington.”

The Medical Officer for the **Biggleswade Rural District** reports that :—

“ During the year 96 additional houses were connected up to the public mains.”

The Medical Officer for the **Luton Rural District** reports that :—

“ The new water works at Slip End, Caddington, have been completed. These consist of the following :—

A bore hole 410 feet deep, pump and engine electrically driven, pump house and water tower of 1,400 gallons capacity in re-inforced concrete, with 1,022 yards of 3 inch main and 86 yards of 2 inch main and 10 standpipes. The Scheme is proceeding satisfactorily there being 63 house-holders obtaining supplies therefrom at 31st December, 1933. The scheme has had the effect of speeding-up building operations in the vicinity.

At Caddington, Hyde, Kensworth and Streatley extensions have been made to the existing mains.”

POLLUTION OF RIVERS.

As far as could be ascertained, the River Ouse in Bedfordshire was free from serious pollution during 1933.

A number of samples of the River water were taken and submitted to chemical analysis with generally favourable results.

RAINFALL.

Weather conditions during the year 1933 were exceptionally dry.

The total Rainfall recorded at the County Sanatorium was 17.03 inches as against 24.93 in 1932. The rainfall was lowest in the months of April and December. The average for England and Wales in 1933 was 29.3 inches, considerably below the average for the last ten years.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

During 1933 various works of improvement and extension have been carried out.

The Medical Officer for the **Biggleswade Urban District** reports that :—

“ Owing to the extension of the residential area during recent years the existing sewer in Newtown was found to be insufficient for the needs of the town. During the year the Furzenhall Stormwater Overflow Sewer has been constructed to relieve the load on the ejector station in Potton Road and to obviate flooding which in time of heavy rainfall occurs in this area.

The sewer, which was constructed in 18" diameter concrete tubes surrounded with 6" of Portland Cement Concrete, was laid from Newtown by way of Furzenhall Road to the sewage works where it discharges into stormwater lagoons.

The new sewer supplements the existing 9" diameter storm-water overflow.

In addition to the above a nine inch diameter stoneware pipe sewer has been laid in Eagle Farm Road for a distance of 150 lineal yards from the main sewer in the London Road at

the junction of this road with Drove Road. This new sewer can be extended to serve future developments.”

The Medical Officer for the **Dunstable Urban District** reports that :—

“ With the exception of seven premises, the whole of the property in the extended area of the Borough drain into domewells, together with a factory and some houses by Church Street Bridge which cannot be drained into the Borough sewers. A comprehensive scheme of sewerage for the whole of the extended area is under consideration and will probably be commenced during 1934.”

The Medical Officer for the **Kempston Urban District** reports that :—

“ The development of two Housing Estates within the area has provided a further extension of 717 yards of 9 inch pipe to the Sewers. At the Disposal Works the sewage is screened and treated by the Anaerobic Tank and Rotary Sprinkler process, afterwards passing through a Humus Tank, when it is finally filtered through a series of lagoons with built up barrier walls of graded clinker ; the effluent is then passed into the water-course over a rough weir causing a cascade action which purifies the effluent by aeration.”

The Medical Officer for the **Amptill Rural District** reports that :—

“ One hundred yards of nine-inch Sewer has been laid in High Street East, Clophill.

The Sewer has been extended with six-inch glazed pipes in Newport Road, Salford.

At School Lane, Flitton, a sewer ditch taking sewage from Pulloxhill and Flitton has been piped in with nine-inch glazed socketted pipes.

The Village Pond at Pulloxhill was cleaned out, and the Flitwick Pond cleaned out as far as possible without emptying.

ASPLEY GUISE.—A four-inch asbestos pumping main has been laid from the cesspool in Gipsy Lane, to raise its contents to the sewer in Mount Pleasant.”

The Medical Officer for the **Biggleswade Rural District** reports that :—

“ In 1933 the Council instructed a firm of Engineers to make a survey and report on the possibility of a combined scheme for the parishes of Shefford, Clifton, Henlow and Langford. The survey was carried out and a report submitted which was duly considered by the Rural District Council who forwarded the report to the various Parish Councils concerned for their observations. This matter is still under consideration.

The installation of a modern system of drainage in these four parishes which are of a semi-urban character, would be welcomed by many owners of property and occupiers. In all these parishes gas, electricity and public water are available, and the principal service now lacking is that of modern drainage.”

The Medical Officer for the **Luton Rural District** reports that :—
 “ The sewer in Leighton Road, Toddington has been extended by 87 yards to connect the drainage from new houses.

Improvements have been effected at the Eaton Bray Sewage Works.”

REFUSE DISPOSAL.

No important extensions in the disposal of refuse have been carried out during the year. Adequate provision appears to be made in the Urban Districts, and schemes are being increasingly adopted in the rural areas of the County.

The Medical Officer for the **Bedford Urban District** reports that :—

“ The method of collecting refuse by mechanical vehicles still shows a very considerable saving over the old method of horse drawn vehicles. During the year a mechanical vehicle has been used for cleansing gullies, and this is proving cleaner, more efficient, and considerably cheaper than the old method with horse-drawn vehicles.

10,190 tons of house refuse, and 466 tons of trade refuse have been dealt with at the Destructor during the year.”

The Medical Officer for the **Biggleswade Urban District** reports that :—

“ The whole question of the method of disposal of refuse is at present under consideration by the Council.”

The Medical Officer for the **Dunstable Urban District** reports that :—

“ A covered refuse collection lorry was purchased during the year to replace two horse-drawn vehicles.”

THE RATS AND MICE (DESTRUCTION) ACT, 1919.

Mr. E. W. Russell, the County Agricultural Officer, reports that :—

“ During the past year the number of cases dealt with by my Department was about the average.

A report was received from the Surveyor to the Ampthill Urban District Council in the early autumn stating that a large portion of the town was affected by rat infestation. The Technical Adviser to the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries was good enough to accompany me on an inspection when it was found that the main source of the trouble was an old system of drains into which rats at many points had easy access. As a result of the drought conditions which had prevailed the rats were more than usually inclined to take to the drains. The District Council were advised

to obtain the services of an expert firm who frequently deal with such cases in the London area, and in due course that Council followed this advice. While the results have been satisfactory, it will be necessary on account of the old system of drains referred to, for periodical efforts to be made to keep the area concerned reasonably free from rats.

The other cases dealt with during the year have been of the ordinary type, and the occupiers concerned have readily adopted the advice given to them in the matter. It has, therefore, not been necessary to ask the Clerk of the County Council to take any legal proceedings during the period.

During National Rat Week from 6th to 11th November, 1933, the usual helpful co-operation of Parish Councils, Sanitary Inspectors, Police, etc., was again readily forthcoming."

HOUSING.

From information kindly supplied by District Medical Officers of Health, I have prepared the following statement showing the number of new houses erected within the County during 1933 :—

	Total number of new houses erected in 1933	By the Local Authority	By private enterprise	
			With State Assistance under the Housing Acts ('‘Subsidy’’)	Without
URBAN DISTRICTS				
Ampthill	7	0	0	7
Bedford	300	*190	0	110
Biggleswade	20	0	0	20
Dunstable	107	0	0	107
Kempston	29	0	0	29
Leighton Buzzard ...	38	14	0	24
Luton	933	0	0	933
Sandy	40	29	0	11
Total	1474	233	0	1241
RURAL DISTRICTS				
Ampthill	74	0	0	74
Bedford	149	8	0	141
Biggleswade	62	12	0	50
Eaton Socon	11	2	0	9
Luton	126	†4	0	122
Total	422	26	0	396

* Of these, 168 houses were erected by the Bedford Corporation outside the Borough Boundary.

† Erected by the Eaton Bray Rural District Council prior to the transfer on April 1st, 1933.

It will be seen from the above statement that 1,896 houses were erected within the County during 1933, as compared with 1,631 in 1932.

HOUSING ACT, 1930.

Section 34 (2) of the Housing Act, 1930, provides that where the Rural District Council claims that any of the houses proposed to be erected by the Council are required for the accommodation of the agricultural population of the District, the County Council shall determine how many such houses are so required, whereupon the County Council will be called upon to contribute at the rate of £1 per annum per house for a period of 40 years, following the completion of these houses. During the year under review applications for grants were received in respect of 120 houses, and grants were authorised in respect of 33 of such houses.

HOUSING (RURAL WORKERS) ACT, 1926.

No applications for loans were received by the County Council under this Act, during 1933.

SANITARY INSPECTIONS.

HOUSES.

Under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925, Local Authorities are required to make provision for a thorough inspection of the houses in their district from time to time by their Medical Officer of Health or by an officer designated for the purpose, to ascertain the varying needs or circumstances of the dwelling houses. Records of these inspections must be kept, and the Medical Officer should include in his Annual Report particulars of results of the inspections.

During 1933 the ascertainment of houses unfit for human habitation received special attention. Detailed surveys were carried out by the various Local Authorities, and a number of demolition orders were made.

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

The workshops and workplaces within the County appear to be adequately inspected, and reasonably well maintained.

Occupiers of Factories and Workshops are required to keep lists of the names and addresses of persons employed by them to execute work at their own homes and to forward copies of such lists to the Local Authority in February and August of each year.

SCHOOLS.

It appears that the sanitary condition of the schools has received due attention from the District Health Authorities. This supervision supplements in a valuable way the inspections made by the Council's Medical Officers.